He Emptied Himself

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"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who, <u>Existing in the Form of God</u>, thought it not comprehendable to be <u>Equal With God</u>; but <u>Emptied Himself</u>; and taking <u>the</u> <u>Form of a Servant</u>, and was <u>made in the likeness of men</u>. And <u>being found in fashion as a man</u>, <u>He humbled Himself</u>, and ." (Philippians 2:5-<u>7</u>-8)

Emptied: from the Greek word <u>ekenosen</u> a verb which means: <u>emptied</u>; from <u>kenoo</u>: to empty; to empty out, make or render void; (passive) be emptied; deprive of content; In Context: Jesus has <u>emptied</u> Himself of the attributes of equality with God the Father - by being made into <u>'the form' a servant made</u>; as it says. 'God Revealed <u>in the Flesh</u>' and the 'Word <u>who became Flesh</u>' and lived <u>amongst us</u>!

Himself: from the Greek word <u>heauton</u> which means: of himself, herself, itself, yourself, (etc...). In context Jesus <u>Himself</u> voluntarily emptied <u>Himself</u>, giving up for a short season <u>His</u> Devine attributes which <u>He</u> previously, and eternally had with the Father.

He Emptied Himself – some other paraphrased translations: 'but made Himself of no reputation' KJV & NKJV; 'He made Himself nothing' NIV, 'He gave up all He had' GNT; 'He stripped Himself of His glory' WNT; '<u>He gave up His</u> <u>divine privileges</u>' NLB. Consider now some of what Jesus emptied Himself of:

He Emptied Himself of His apparent equality with God in heaven:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, **and the Word was God**. The same was in the beginning with God." (John 1:1=2)

"Who (pre)existing in the Form of God, thought it not robbery to be Equal With God;" (Philippians 2:5)

He Emptied Himself of His Glory that He had in the beginning with God.

"These words spoke Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, 'Father, the hour has come; **glorify Your Son**, so that Your Son also may glorify You. As You have given Him (Jesus) power over all flesh, so that He should give Eternal Life to as many as You (the Father) have given Him (Jesus). And this is Life Eternal: that they might know You the <u>only true God</u>, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You gave Me to do. <u>And now, O Father</u>, **glorify Me with** <u>Your own self with the glory which I had with You before the world existed</u>." (John 17:1-5)

He Emptied Himself of the wealth of His Divine attributes that He had in the beginning with God:

"I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the earnestness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, **though He was rich**, yet for your sakes **He became poor**, that <u>you</u> (us) <u>through His</u> poverty might be rich." (2 Corinthians 8:8-9)

He Emptied Himself of being served, and instead became a Ministering Servant to us:

"But Jesus called them unto Himself, and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they who are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever will be great among you, let him be your servant; and whoever will be chief among you, let him be your slave; <u>even as the **Son of Man**</u> <u>**came not to be served, but to serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many."</u>

He Emptied Himself

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He Emptied Himself of His heaven based Right Hand position of Sovereignty besides the Father:

"For He not put in subjection to the angels the world to come, of which we are speaking. But someone in a certain place testified, saying, '*What is man, that You are mindful of him? Or the Son of Man, that You care for Him?* <u>You have made Him a little lower than</u> <u>the angels;</u> (but later) You did crown Him with glory and honor, and have set Him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under His feet' (Ps. 8:4-6). For in that He (the Father) put all in subjection under Him (Jesus), He left nothing that is not put under Him. <u>But now we do not yet see all things put under Him</u>. <u>But we see</u> <u>Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death</u>, crowned with glory and honor; so that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Author of their Salvation perfect through sufferings." (Hebrews 2:5-10)

He Emptied Himself by becoming one of us:

He "was <u>made in the likeness of men</u>. And <u>being found in fashion as a man</u>, <u>He</u> <u>humbled Himself</u>, and became **obedient unto death**, even the death of the cross."

"<u>And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among</u> us. And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him, and cried-out, saying, 'This was he of whom I spoke, He who comes after me is preferred before me: for He existed before me.' And of His fulness we have all received, and grace for grace." (John 1:14-16)

"For both He who sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one; for which cause <u>**He is not ashamed to call them brethren**</u>, saying, '*I will declare Your name unto My* brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto You' (Ps. 22:22) And again, '*I will* put My trust in Him' (Isaiah. 8:17). And again, 'Behold, I and the children whom God has given Me' (Isaiah. 8:18) For in as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and <u>blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same</u> (human flesh); so that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them (us) who through the fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For truly He (Jesus) did not take on Himself the nature of angels; but He took on Himself the seed of Abraham (human flesh). Therefore in all things it was necessary for Him to be made like unto His brethren, so that He might be a Merciful and Faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself (as a man like unto us) has suffered being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted." (Hebrews 2:11-18)

The depth and breadth of all that Jesus emptied Himself <u>of</u> for <u>our</u> salvation is certainly much more than we may ever comprehend. However, the truth is that, in love, and for the Joy foreseen, Jesus truly did empty Himself it <u>for us</u> !!!

Jesus Emptied Himself ...

... of His pre-existent attributes of equality with God the Father !!

He did so by taking upon Himself the Form of a human Servant !! He served us by becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the cross !! FOR US !!

Thank You Lord Jesus for Your obedience to the Father, and for Your Mercy <u>towards us</u> !! Thank You for being the ransom for our reconciliation to the Father !! Al Praise and Glory and Honor to You for bringing many children unto the Father !!