

He Took the Form of a Servant

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"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who, Existing in the Form of God, thought it not comprehensible to be Equal With God; but Emptied Himself, and **having taken the Form of a Servant**, being Made in the Likeness of Men. And being found in fashion as a man, **He humbled Himself**, and became **obedient unto death**, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-6-8)

Having-taken: from the Greek word ***labon*** a verb which means: having-taken, taking, took, receive, received; (from ***lambano***: lay-hold-of, properly, to lay hold by aggressively (actively) accepting what is offered, or available).

Form: from the Greek word ***morph n*** which means: form, shape, outward appearance. from ***morph*** : properly, form (outward expression) that embodies essential (inner) substance so that the form is in complete harmony with the inner essence.

Servant: ('of a Servant') from the Greek word ***doulou*** which means: slave, servant; properly, someone who belongs to another; a bond-slave, a bond-servant, without any ownership rights of their own. (is used with the highest dignity in the NT of Christ Jesus; and of believers who willingly live under Christ's authority as His devoted followers.)

In Context: Jesus, who pre-existed as God before the foundation of the universe, willingly, and in obedience to the Father, actively embraced the salvation plan for mankind by taking upon Himself the form and role of a flesh-and-blood human **bond-slave to the Father**, for the specific purpose and end-goal of sacrificial death on the Cross for our salvation! It is as Jesus said:

"But Jesus called them unto Himself, and said, 'You know that the rulers of the nations exercise dominion over them; and those who are great exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever will be first among you, let him be your servant; and whoever will be chief among you, let him be your slave; even as the Son of Man came not to be served unto, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.' " (Matthew 20:25-28)

Consider also Paul's inspired words to the saints at Rome:

"Now I say that **Jesus Christ was a Minister** (a servant) to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers; and so that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, '*For this reason I will confess (give praise) to You among the Gentiles, and sing to Your Name (2 Samuel 22:50).* And again He says, '*Rejoice, you Gentiles, with His people (Israel) (Deuteronomy 32:43).*' And again, '*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; and greatly-praise (laud) Him, all you people (Psalm 117:1).*' And again, Isaiah says, '*There shall come the Root of Jesse (Jesus), and He that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in Him shall the Gentiles hope (Isaiah 11:10).*' " (Romans 15:8-12)

Minister: from the Greek word ***diakonos*** which means: a servant, a minister, an attendant, a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); (from an obsolete ***diako*** - to run on errands). In context Jesus, the Father's Servant, was sent on the Father's errand to serve us (Jews and Gentiles), by confirming and fulfilling the promises made to the ancient Jewish Fathers on our behalf (both Jews and Gentiles).

"...For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; how-much more those who receive the abundance of Grace, and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by **One: Jesus Christ**. Therefore, as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of One (Jesus) the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by **the Obedience of One** (Jesus) many shall be made righteous! " (Romans 5:17-19)

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Jesus humbled Himself as a servant to the Father, and served us by becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Consider also the following:

Jesus, "Who in the days of His flesh, when He offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him (the Father) who was able to save Him from death; was heard because of His godly-fear. And although He was a Son, **He learned obedience** from the things which He suffered; and being made perfect, He became **the Author of Eternal Salvation unto all those who obey Him.** (Hebrews 5:7-9)

During His years on Earth Jesus served others with unending faithfulness. Please consider the following:

"And it came to pass, that after three days they (the parents of Jesus) found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they (His parents) saw Him, they were amazed: and His mother said unto Him, 'Son, why have You thus dealt with us? Behold, Your father and I have sought You with sorrow.' And He said unto them, 'How is it that you sought Me? Knew you not that I must be about My Father's business (**as a servant to His Father**)?' And they did not understand the saying which He spoke unto them. And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, **and was subject unto them (He faithfully and obediently served them).** And His mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Luke 2:46-52)

"Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God, and was going (back) to God, rose from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. After that He poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel that He was girded with. When He came to Simon Peter, Peter said unto Him, 'Lord, do You wash my feet?' Jesus answered and said unto Him, 'What I do you do not understand now; but you shall understand after this.' But Peter said unto Him, 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus answered him, 'If I do not wash you, then you have no part with Me.' Then Simon Peter said unto Him, 'Lord, then not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.' Jesus said to him, 'He who is washed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all. For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, 'You are not all clean.' So after He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, and had sat down again, He said unto them, Do you understand what I have done to you? You call Me Master and Lord; and you say well; for so I am. **If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, so that you should do as I have done to you.** Truly, truly, I say unto you: **The servant is not greater than his lord; neither is He (Jesus) who is sent greater than He (the Father) who sent Him.** If you know these things, **you are blessed if you do them.**" (John 13:3-17)

The many other ways that our Lord Jesus served us was very well foretold by the prophetic words that follow:

Speaking of Jesus, it says: "Strengthen You the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees; and say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a deer, and the tongue of the dumb will sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert." (Isaiah 35:3-6)

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And again: "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me (speaking of the Messiah Jesus); because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me (as a servant) to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; and to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn."
(Isaiah 61:1-2)

Jesus Himself proclaims the fulfillment of these servant-hood prophecies in Himself:

"And He (Jesus) came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read. And there was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He (the Father) has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.' And He closed the book, and He gave it again to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all those who were in the synagogue were fastened on Him. And He began to say unto them, 'This day this scripture is fulfilled in your ears.'" (Luke 4:16-22)

"Now when John (the Baptist) had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, to say unto Him, 'Are You He (i.e. the promised Messiah who should come, or do we look for another?'" Jesus answered and said unto them, 'Go and show (tell) John again those things which you do hear and see: 'The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.' And blessed is he, whoever shall not be offended in Me." (Matthew: 11:2-6)

Luke's version: "And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, to say, 'Are You He who should come? or look we for another?' When the men had come unto Him, they said, John Baptist has sent us unto You, saying, 'Are You He that should come? or look we for another?' And in that same hour He (Jesus) was curing many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. Then Jesus answering said unto them, 'Go your way, and tell John what things you have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and to the poor the Good-News is proclaimed. And blessed is he, whoever shall not be offended in Me.'" (Luke 7:19-23)

Jesus Took Upon Himself the Form of a Servant

**He first faithfully subjected Himself to His earthly parents, and obediently served them !
He then faithfully served His people, the Jews, through many healings, and miracles !**

**He proclaimed the Good-News of the Father which is found in the Son Jesus !
He taught the people the message of Hope and salvation in and through Himself !**

**But Most of All, He redeemed and ransomed us back unto His Father,
through His obedience unto death, even the death of the cross !!!**

**All Praise and Glory be unto Jesus our most precious Lord and Savior !!
Always and Always Forever and Ever!**

Thank you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - Truly and Truly !!!