## <u>"DOWN FROM HIS GLORY"</u> <u>PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11</u> (A CHRISTMAS EVE SERMON)

**NOTE:** The theme of our service tonight is DOWN FROM HIS GLORY.... THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT JESUS CHRIST DID WHEN HE CAME TO EARTH OVER 2000 YEARS AGO. Of all the passages in the Word of God that we read during this time of the year, ONE TEXT THAT CLEARLY PRESENTS WHAT CHRIST DID AT HIS INCARNATION IS PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11. *LET'S OBSERVE!* 

#### **OBSERVATIONS:**

- 1) <u>THIS TEXT</u> is perhaps the <u>GREATEST DOCTRINAL STATEMENT IN SCRIPTURE</u> relative to the PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST. It is known as the "<u>KENOSIS</u>" or the "<u>EMPTYING</u>." (Speaking of how Christ emptied Himself when He came to earth).
- 2) <u>THIS TEXT</u> brings together <u>ALL</u> that JESUS CHRIST was in Eternity Past, What He did on Earth, and what He will be in Eternity Future.
- 3) <u>THIS TEXT</u> clearly brings together the <u>GLORIOUS MESSAGE</u> OF <u>CHRISTMAS AND EASTER <u>IN ONE</u> <u>MAJESTIC TEXT!</u></u>

### SEVEN TRUTHS SEEN ABOUT CHRIST JESUS IN THE TEXT

- 1) Christ Jesus is the Eternal God Vs.6 (Equal with God)
- 2) Christ Jesus Emptied Himself Vs. 7a ("Made Himself of no Reputation")
- 3) Christ Jesus Stooped to Become a Servant Vs. 7b ("The Form of a Servant")
- 4) Christ Jesus Became a Man Vs. 7c ("Made in the Likeness of Men")
- 5) Christ Jesus Humbled Himself Vs. 8a ("Humbled Himself")
- 6) Christ Jesus Submitted Himself to Death Vs. 8b ("Obedient unto Death")
- 7) Christ Jesus Yielded to the Death of the Cross Vs. 8c ("Death of the Cross")

# CHRIST JESUS MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION ("EKENOSEN" – EMPTIED HIMSELF")

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

HE NEVER STOPPED BEING GOD AS HE BECAME FULLY MAN!

- 1) As a Baby in Mary's Arms, Jesus was 100% God...At that point He could have SPOKEN THE UNIVERSE OUT OF EXISTENCE!
- 2) In becoming a Man at His Birth, Jesus Emptied Himself of CERTAIN PREROGATIVES OF DIETY.... That is, HE LIMITED HIMSELF!
  - From the GLORY OF HEAVEN to a Stable and a Manger
  - From being SURROUNDED BY ANGELS to being surrounded by Shepherds
  - From the ROYALTY OF MAJESTY to humility of a Carpenter's Family
  - From then POWER OF DIETY to weakness of Complete Humanity
  - From the THRONE OF GOD IN HEAVEN to Death of the Cross

AT ANY TIME ON EARTH JESUS COULD HAVE DONE ANYTHING HE WANTED TO AS GOD, BUT HE CAME DOWN FROM HIS GLORY TO DIE ON THE CROSS FOR US ALL!

BUT GOD THE FATHER HIGHLY EXALTED HIM (VERSES 9-11)...SO SHOULD WE!

HERE-NOW-TONIGHT-ALWAYS!

TRUST CHRIST AS SAVIOR – SERVE HIM AS LORD – PRAISE HIM AS GOD

SHARE HIM AS THE MESSIAH