

## Let this Mind, this Attitude, be Yours

**Phil 2:5-6** — He did not hold on to His equality with God, His exalted position with God. He shared all the glories and prerogatives of deity, but did not regard the circumstances of His existence as something to be jealously retained. He rather submitted to the will of the Father (Jn 10:17). He willingly let go of His glory when He came to earth as a man, when He became embodied into human flesh and we beheld His glory. He was not glorifying Himself. His real glory was obvious to all who had a heart to see. He laid aside His heavenly glory to come to earth and die. We, then, should lay down our lives as He did (1 Jn 3:16), looking beyond our own interests. We should bear the cross as He did (Phil 2:4).

**Phil 2:5** presents one of the greatest statements concerning the person and work of the Messiah and the purpose we are called to. Without our conforming to Him and having His mind and attitude, we will never come to this purpose. Only those who willingly take on His mind and become like Him will be able to rule with Him (Rev 3:21). That is, if we come to be equal, comparable, and worthy of Him (Rev 19:7-8) by walking as He walked (Col 1:10; 1 Jn 2:6; 4:17).

**Phil 2:7** — The reality of the incarnation (Jn 1:14) is expressed in complete self-surrender and renunciation. He made himself void of glorification. He would not resort to self-glorification, but even allowed Himself to be treated as a despised criminal, rejected among men, of no reputation, of disrepute.

**Phil 2:1** speaks to all who read or hear to determine what one thinks of Messiah. There are four “ifs” there:

*Is there any consolation or encouragement in Messiah?*

*Is there any comfort of love?*

*Is there any fellowship of the Spirit?*

*Is there any affection and mercy?*

*If so, then the listeners can go on to do the rest. They are qualified to obey Phil 2:2-9. But if there is no community love, as was the case in Rev 2, then there could be no possibility of obeying the rest, without the Spirit to judge your own life in the community – whether you are a part in this communion.*