

# Proclaimed

PROCLAIMED IN THE INCARNATION - PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11  
DECEMBER 17, 2017

...though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

**-Philippians 2:6-7**

## I. INCARNATION

- Incarnation: “Embodied in flesh” or “taking on flesh;” the mystery of the Word made flesh (Isa. 9:6; John 1:9; 1:14; 1 John 4:2).
- Hypostatic union: the personal union of Jesus’ two natures (Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3).
- The hymn of Christ (vs. 6-11; Eph. 5:19; Col. 1:15-20; 3:16).
- The self-humiliation of Jesus the Christ — the theme of the Christ hymn (Matt. 20:25-28; John 13:1-17).
- Grasping at equality; the primacy of the Father in the Godhead (John 20:17; Eph. 1:3; Mk. 13:32; 1 Cor. 15:28).
- Jesus gained human attributes; he did not give up divine attributes (Matt. 14:25; John 6:64; 16:19).
- The incarnation was not temporary. Christ remains the God-Man, and will forever (Acts 1:11; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:3; 1 John 4:2).

## II. ‘TIS MYSTERY ALL - THE IMMORTAL DIES!

- What manner a man is this? (Isa. 53:1; Mark 6:3; Mark 4:41; Luke 7:49; 9:8-10)
- “Poured out his soul to death” (Isa. 53:12; John 18:11).
- Found in human form, obedient to the point of death (vs. 8; Luke 22:42).
- Not by force, but willingly; even death on a cross (John 10:17-18; Gal. 3:13; Matt. 27:45-46).
- Death, thou shalt die! (1 Cor. 15:54-56)
- The name above all names. Jesus is Lord, and now has the authority that is born by the name (Matt. 28:18).
- Have this mind among yourselves (v. 5).

**KNOW:** The second Person of the Trinity became man forever, so that we might know life forever through his gospel.

**DO:** Respond to God’s initiative in the Incarnation.

### Recommended Reading:

*Pleased to Dwell — A Biblical Introduction to the Incarnation*, by Peter Mead (LifePoint Library #394.1 MEA)  
*Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ*, by John Piper (LifePoint Library #232.8 PIP)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please read Philippians 2:5-11

1. In what ways, if any, has the idea of the incarnation of the Word of God (Jesus) impacted you?
2. Paul says we should “have this mind among yourselves.” What “mind” is he talking about here?
3. To what has God exalted Jesus? What is Paul’s line of reasoning here? Does it say anything about our future resurrection and exaltation in heaven?
4. What is so bad about the crucifixion? Are there not worse ways to die? Why was the crucifixion such a humiliation for Jesus?
5. How does all this discussion about the humble God relate to unity in the church and counting others as better than yourself? (Phil. 2:4)
6. How has knowing this passage (either today or earlier in your life) changed you as a person?