

## Lesson Notes: Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV based)

READ: Philippians 2:5-8, with vv.1-4 for context

### v.5

Why is attitude important to God?

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### vv.6-8

Identify, analyze, and describe what Christ's attitude is, as stated in vv.6-8.

#### v.6

- - self-denial, self-restraint, self-depriving;
- - self-humbling;

#### v.7

- - self-emptying, giving up the use of what He possessed;
- - servant-minded;
- - deity taking on also being human, which is immeasurably inferior;

#### v.8

- - not lessening but concealing His divine nature;
  - - lowered His status;
  - - voluntary submission to the Father's will;
  - - self-sacrificing - intentionally took on pain, suffering, torture, death;
  - - implied consistency, endurance, excellence;
  - - total abandonment of self-interests and self-preservation;
  - - for the benefit of others.
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What would the experience be like to be God, the all-powerful infinite Creator of the universe, and set aside showing who you are and what you can do in order to benefit vastly inferior finite beings you created? A similarity is us taking on being a cockroach for the benefit of other cockroaches, who scurry around stealing and contaminating our food.

How can we each take on the attitudes of Christ Jesus? What specifically do we need to do to make this occur?

What results should occur if we do these attitude changes - individually? Corporately?

Are we personally willing to obey God's will even if it means inconvenience, uncomfortable, hard work, financial loss, pain, suffering, sickness, torture, death?

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MAIN POINT: What would you say is the main point in these verses?

IMPORTANT SUB-POINTS: What are some other important points God is making here in these verses?

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APPLICATIONS: What applications can you think of for how we should respond to the concepts in these verses?

PERSONALIZED APPLICATIONS: From these verses, what do you think God wants you to learn, or know, or remember, or put into effect in your life? How are you going to do that?

What is your attitude (v.5)? Define it, in comparison to the virtues outlined in vv.1-8.

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Works Cited:

Bible. "The Holy Bible: New International Version." *The Bible Library CD-ROM*. Oklahoma City, OK: Ellis Enterprises, 1988.

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