

Last week we completed a summary of God's ultimate revelation the Godman Jesus. When time expired I was about to teach the *Doctrine of Kenosis*.

### Doctrine of Kenosis

1. Webster has the following to say of Kenosis: "The English word kenosis is derived from the Greek and means the state of being emptied. Kenosis as it relates to Theology is the relinquishment of the form of God by Christ in becoming man."

1.1 Kenosis is closely related to what we call the Hypostatic Union. The term Hypostatic Union comes from the Greek word **Hupostasis** meaning "to stand down." Said another way, Christ decided to deprive Himself of His Deity and become human; thus, Christ emptied Himself of His Deity and took on the limitations of humanity.

#### Expanded Translation

Phi 2:7 But in contrast to an equality with the other members of the Trinity, He Himself became less than divine; in fact, He robbed Himself of His rightful prerogatives taking the form of a slave in the likeness of humanity.

1.2 Kenosis indicates that Christ voluntarily took upon Himself the form of man to fulfill the mission of God. He did not provide for self but for us.

1.3 Christ voluntarily restricted the use of His power in compatibility with the plan of God.

1.4 Christ chose to fulfill the role of Savior to resolve the angelic conflict.

1.5 Christ denied the independent exercise of His deity in order to become our example.

2. Let's address the false doctrine of kenosis:

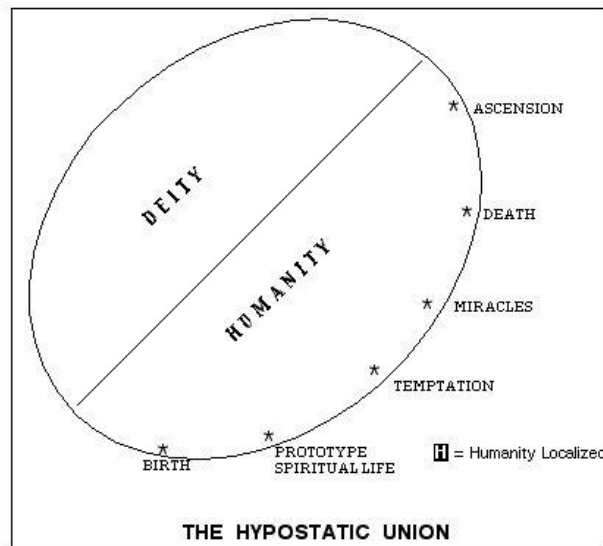
- The attributes of God were irrevocably surrendered.
- Christ did not have a real body like a man.
- At the incarnation Christ veiled His pre-incarnate glory.
- Christ as God did not have to learn.
- Christ as God could not die.

3. Christ depended on the power of The Holy Spirit and a soul full of doctrine to perform supernatural things such as miracles.

Luk 4:14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee; and there went out a fame of Him through all the region round about ...

Luk 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the broken hearted ...

3.1 Christ having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, having never sinned and thus having no old sin nature was able to perform many supernatural works in His humanity. This is best illustrated in chart form with comment.



3.1.1 Christ in His humanity agreed to not be omnipresent thus he was localized in one spot—Palestine.

Mat 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Luk 2:6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

Luk 2:7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Mar 1:9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

Mar 1:10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

Mar 1:11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ...

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

3.1.2 Christ agreed to reject His omniscience by agreeing to learn.

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Heb 5:10 Called of God a high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

3.1.3 Christ agreed to reject His sovereignty by agreeing to go to the cross as the Father planned.

Isa 48:16 "Come near me and listen to this: "From the first announcement I have not spoken in secret; at the time it happens, I am there." And now the Sovereign LORD has sent me, with his Spirit.

Isa 48:17 This is what the LORD says--your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.

Mat 26:39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

3.1.4 Christ agreed to reject His omnipotence by avoiding the prince of this world—the devil rather than casting him in the Lake of Fire.

Joh 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Joh 14:31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

4. Christ gave up the overt appearance of God.

4.1 He took upon Himself the likeness of man.

4.2 He prayed for the true glorification of His humanity as Israel's earthly King.

4.3 He prayed for His humanity to be victorious in the angelic conflict. Jesus did not pray for His divine essence nor did He pray that His divine essence never return--quite the contrary.

Joh 17:4 I have glorified Thee on earth; I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do.

Joh 17:5 And now O Father, glorify Thou Me with thine own Self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was."

5. Tonight I want to review the *Doctrine of Confession and Faith*.

### **Doctrine of Confession and Faith**

1. This doctrine will answer the question, "Is faith alone enough, or do you have to add confession for salvation?" There are a host of Scriptures that indicate faith alone in Christ alone is sufficient. There are two or three Scriptures which some, in error, believe add confession for salvation.

2. The view that faith is not enough is blasphemous, arrogant and denies the total depravity of man.

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

3. Let us take a look at a few Scriptures which tell us faith is sufficient and one which even tells us "the more you work the greater the debt."

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Rom 4:4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

Rom 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Joh 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

4. What about those passages wrongly interpreted as adding confession? Let's carefully analyze the troublesome passages. What about Mat 10:32-33? Does it teach that confession is necessary for salvation?

Mat 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 10:33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

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