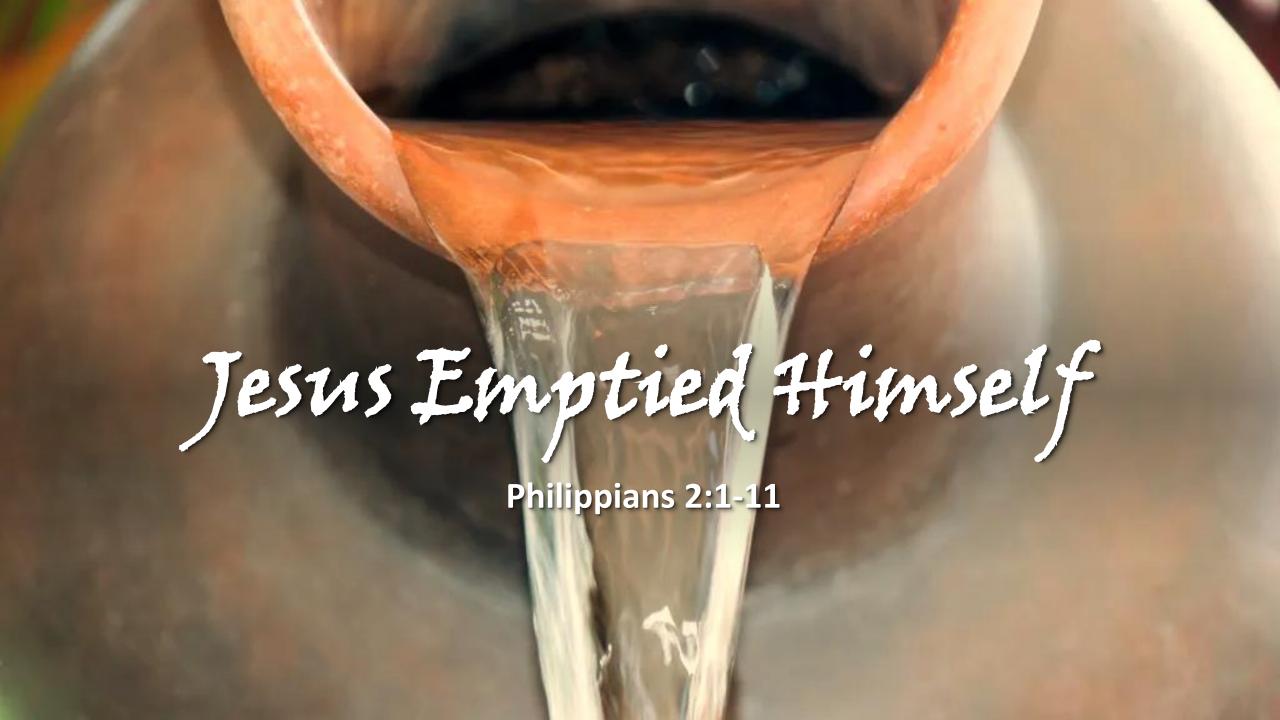






18 For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ



1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

#### "If" there is any?!

• Paul knows there is plenty! He uses "if" rhetorically to mean "since"

#### Then...

- The outcome of Christ, love, the Spirit, affection and sympathy is unity
- Be "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit..." (Eph. 4:1-6)

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Don't be full of yourself

4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others

- Fill yourself with concern for the concerns of others
  - Fill your mind, heart, **prayers**, time, calendar, outbox...

5 Have this mind among yourselves He became thirsty (John 4:7) who, though he was in the form of God a thing to be grasped 7 but em of a servant, being born in the liken

- What is it we are holding on to?
- Jesus emptied Himself
  - By becoming like us... for the purpose of serving us
  - He became like us to die for us

- That we might drink (John 4:10-14)

He became hungry (Matt. 4:2)

- That we might be fed (John 6:51, 57-58)

He wept (John 11:35; Luke 19:41)

- That our tears be wiped away (Rev. 21:4)

He became poor (2 Cor. 8:9)

- That we might become rich

8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Has your knee bowed?
- Has your tongue confessed?
- If not, why not?
  - Could it be that you are just too full of yourself?
- Some day every knee will bow...

