

What Christ Gave Up

Life as God

Philippians 2:5–6 NLT

5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. 6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.

Status: Rags to Riches

God Almighty - Palestinian Jew in the ANE / Humble baby.

Created literally - Everything! & Worshipped by everything -

Reduced to son of a virgin & a poor carpenter.

Trinity/Relationship - *Homoousious* - The Same Stuff

Now a distance in that Trinitarian Relationship

Authority & Powers of God

Philippians 2:7a NLT

7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,

Loss of privileges. - He self-limited His privileges while here on earth.

Loss of acting as God

Loss of:

Omniscience - Knowing Everything.

Omnipresence - Everywhere at the same time.

Omnipotence - Unlimited Power.

To Be Treated Like God

Philippians 2:8 NLT

8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Dying a criminal's death on the cross was humiliating for a mere human, let alone the One who created us.

Christ suffered & died at the hands of His own creation.

This is no way to treat the King of the Universe!

Why?

Love

How do we know this?

Jesus knows what God the Father thinks and feels about us, His people:

Psalms 139:16–17 NLT

16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. 17 How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

Matthew 10:29–31 NLT

29 What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. 30 And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

Romans 8:28–29 NLT

28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 29 For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

John 3:16–17 NLT

16 "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. 17 God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

2 Peter 3:9 NLT

9 The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

John 14:2–3 NLT

2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? 3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

Jesus is working out God's mission to reconcile people to God:

Colossians 1:19–20 NLT

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, 20 and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

Jesus: The King of kings, Lord of lords - the creator of everything!...humbled Himself in order that you and I have the opportunity to be adopted back into God's family. To take our places as rightful heirs of God's Kingdom. To be in a right relationship with God Himself.

John 1:12 NLT

12 But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

Jesus gave Himself as a living sacrifice for you and me.-

Because God LOVES us.

What is the COST of LOVE? Death! Death of God Himself.

But it doesn't end there! There was also a resurrection! In that resurrection of Jesus, life was given. The ransom was paid, and our lives were restored.

Imagine, lives being restored through death.

We may never fully understand the extreme sacrifice Jesus paid for us. But, we do get a glimpse of how His life touched ours.

2,000 years after Jesus' ministry on this earth, we reap the benefits of His life as a human. He has touched our lives because of His Love for us.

What does Love cost you?

Not in currency, or things, or preferences.

But what of YOURSELF are you giving to others, in light of Jesus' sacrifices?

