



Readings for the Holiday Season - # 7

Another way in which Paul emphasized the centrality of Christ the Messiah to our faith is illustrated in Philippians chapter 2, verses 1-11. In these words to the Christians in Philippi Paul stresses how deserving Christ is of all our praise.

Philippians 2:1-11

2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, **2** then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being **3** one in spirit and of one mind. **3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: **6** Who, being in very nature^a God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;**7** rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^b of a servant, being made in human likeness.**8** And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!**9** Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, **10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.