

## THE WITNESS OF THE CROSS (Part 1)

### The World of the Crucified, Risen Savior Really Is a "New" World/Order

- The realm of those shaped by the cross:

...surrendered to God



...serving fellow man

- The cross-ified life can only be lived one way:

...under God



...poured out for others

- The cross fulfills the law (covenant) of God - Matt 22:37-40

...the witness of the cross: the life of self-offering to God and to others - Ro 12:1

### The Truth of What It Means to Be God - Phil 2:5-9

- He is love in action

...a holy passion for oneness that moves Him in the direction of need - Jo 3:16

...He practices what He preaches - Matt 16:24; 19:21

- Such a contrast to earthly kings/rulers - Phil 2:6-7

...His is not a grasping, seizing, taking life

...never exploits His "status" for personal gain

### The Truth of What It Means to Be the People of God

- Cooperative agents with the life/nature within us - Ga 2:20; 1 Cor 2:16

...He took no advantage of His union, neither can we

...never an excuse to separate, but a reason to "go"

- Our oneness with God never a platform for self-glorification

...it is something to be "poured out"

...a reason to serve others

The Pattern - 1 Pet 2:21; Phil 2:6

- "Although (a)", "did not (b)", "but (c)"

(a) ..."existed in form of God"

(b) ..."regard His oneness as a thing to be clung to"

(c) ..."emptied Himself"

- became human (voluntary incarnation)

- humbled himself as a bonds slave (voluntary servant)

- obeyed unto death on a cross (voluntary death)

- Contrary to what we might expect, but, not contrary to His nature/character/mission!

...the fullness of the revelation of God - Jo 1:1-18; Heb 1:3; Col 1:15

...this is the disposition deposited in us - Col 1:27

...this is the witness of the cross!