Philippians 2. 5-11

A. The Structure (based on a possible literal translation)

"Let this way of thinking be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being (existing) in the form of God,

- (i) did not regard being on equality with God as something to be grasped tightly and used for His own advantage,
- (ii) but made Himself of no account,
- (iii) taking on Him the form of a bond-slave,
- (iv) becoming in the likeness of men.

And, being found in fashion as a man,

- (v) He humbled Himself,
- (vi) becoming obedient to the extent of death, and that death of a cross.

Wherefore God

- (i) also highly exalted Him,
- (ii) and gave Him the name above every name:

that in the name of Jesus

- (a) every knee should bow heavenly, earthly and under the earth; and
- (b) every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father".

B. Paul's Five Portraits of the Lord Jesus

- 1. Our Lord's status and glory before He became a man, v. 6.
- 2. Our Lord's breathtaking descent from His glory and throne to the manger at Bethlehem, vv. 6-7.
- 3. Our Lord's self-humbling when a man, taking Him down to the fathomless depths of death on a cross, v. 8.
- 4. That which, in response, God has already done for Him, v. 9.
- 5. That which God has decreed *shall be* done for Him by all others in the future, vv. 10-11.