

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus,



*Paul's Letter to the*

# Philippians

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code may abound more and more, with knowledge and  
all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be  
pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of

“The Humbled & Exalted Christ”  
(Philippians 2:5-11)





# PHILIPPIANS

## Joy No Matter What

Introduction To The Book of Philippians

● **Those IN CHRIST can HAVE TRUE JOY & PEACE:**

- Regardless of our past - (our sins or what others have done to us)
- Regardless of our circumstances - (Our physical or material condition or how others are mistreating us)



# “The Joyful Unity We Have In Christ”

- In 1:27 Paul had written about living the Christian life in harmony with the message on which it is based.
- He follows that with a call to show forth spiritual unity.

**DEMANDS HUMILITY**  
What better example  
than JESUS?



# Philippians 2:5–11 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.



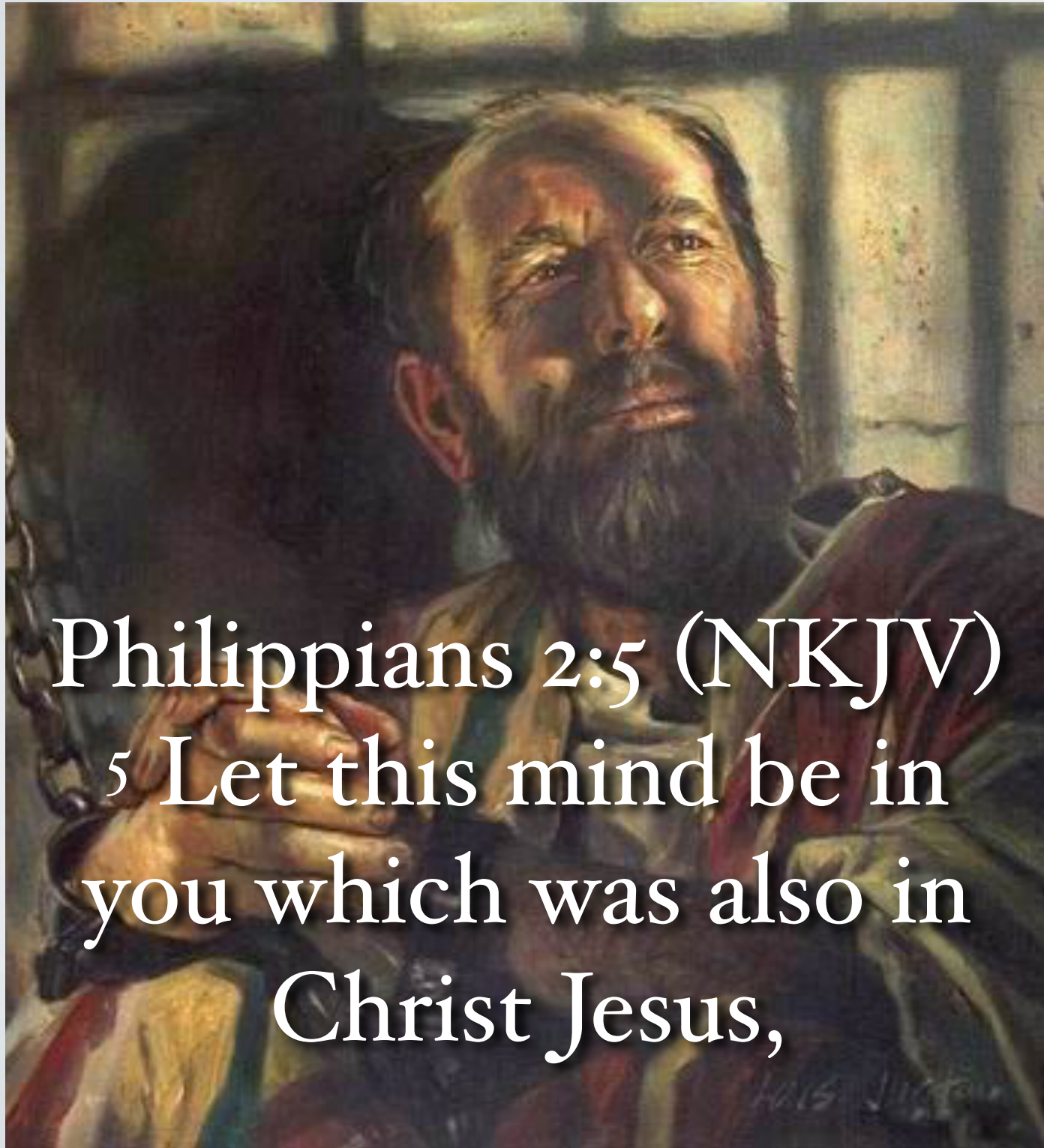
# Philippians 2:5–11 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## OUR EXAMPLE: THE MIND OF “**CHRIST**”



- Believers are exhorted to have the same attitude — Christ exhibited.
- In the following verses (6-11), Paul elaborates on the "**mind of Christ**" (or the attitude of Christ), which He exhibited in BOTH His condescension & humiliation. — i.e., **selfless humility!**



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## OUR EXAMPLE: THE MIND OF “CHRIST”

Philippians 2:2–4 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> ... being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. <sup>3</sup> *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

Philippians 2:5 (NKJV)

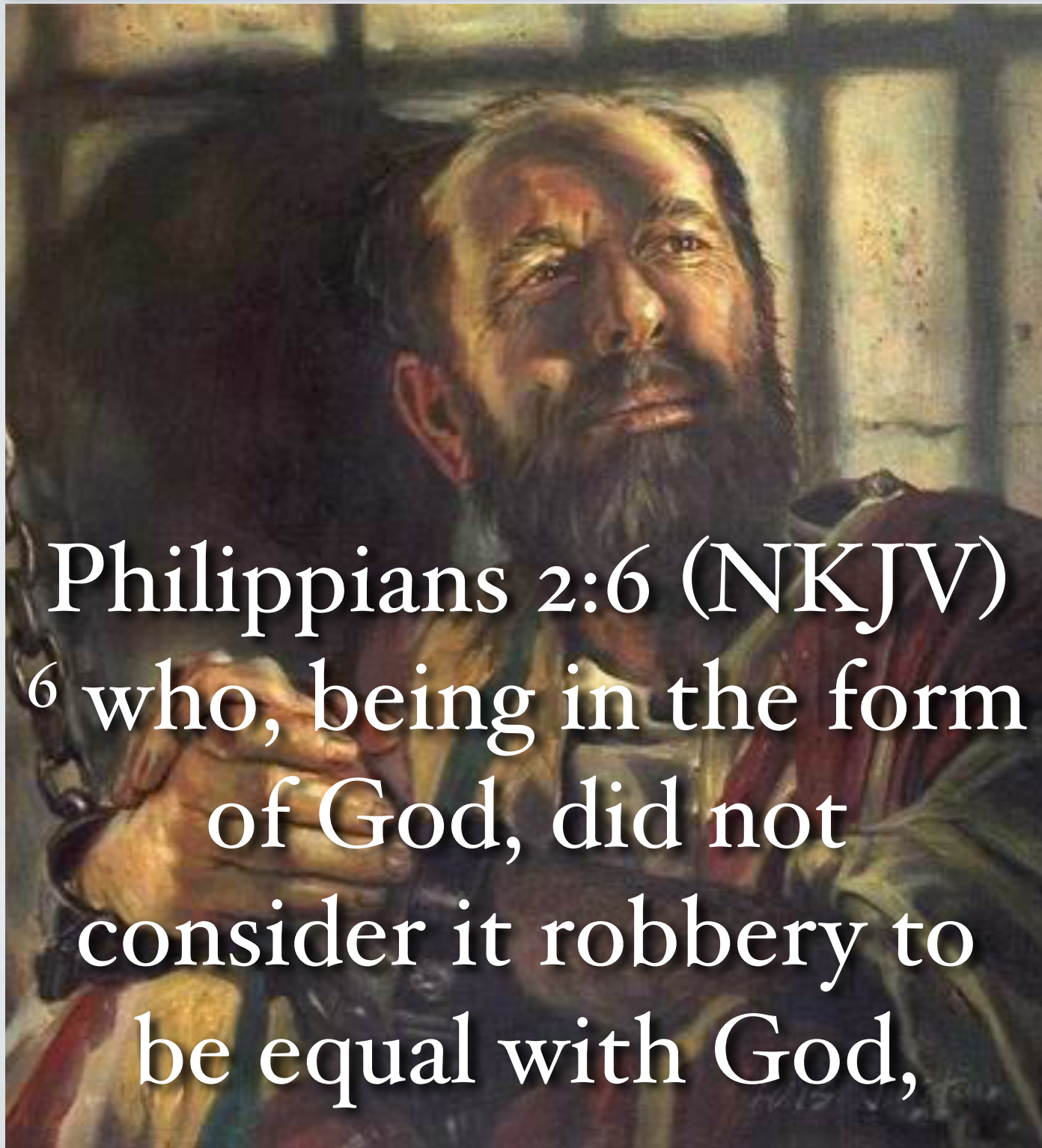
<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

Philippians 2:6–8 (NKJV)  
<sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • **BEING -**

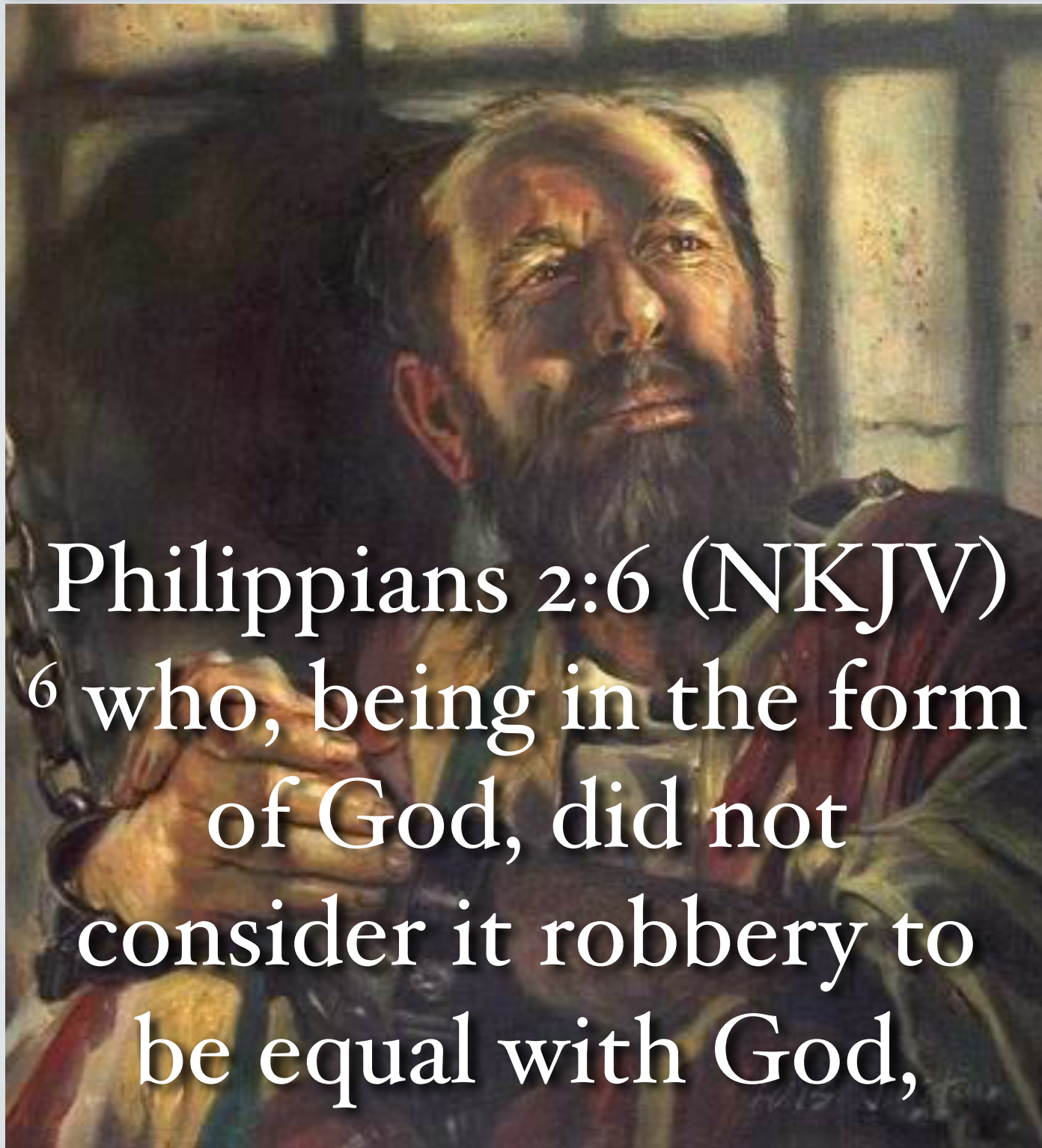
**ὑπάρχω<sup>a</sup>**: to be in a state, normally with the implication of a particular set of circumstances —  
**‘to be.’**

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • **BEING -**

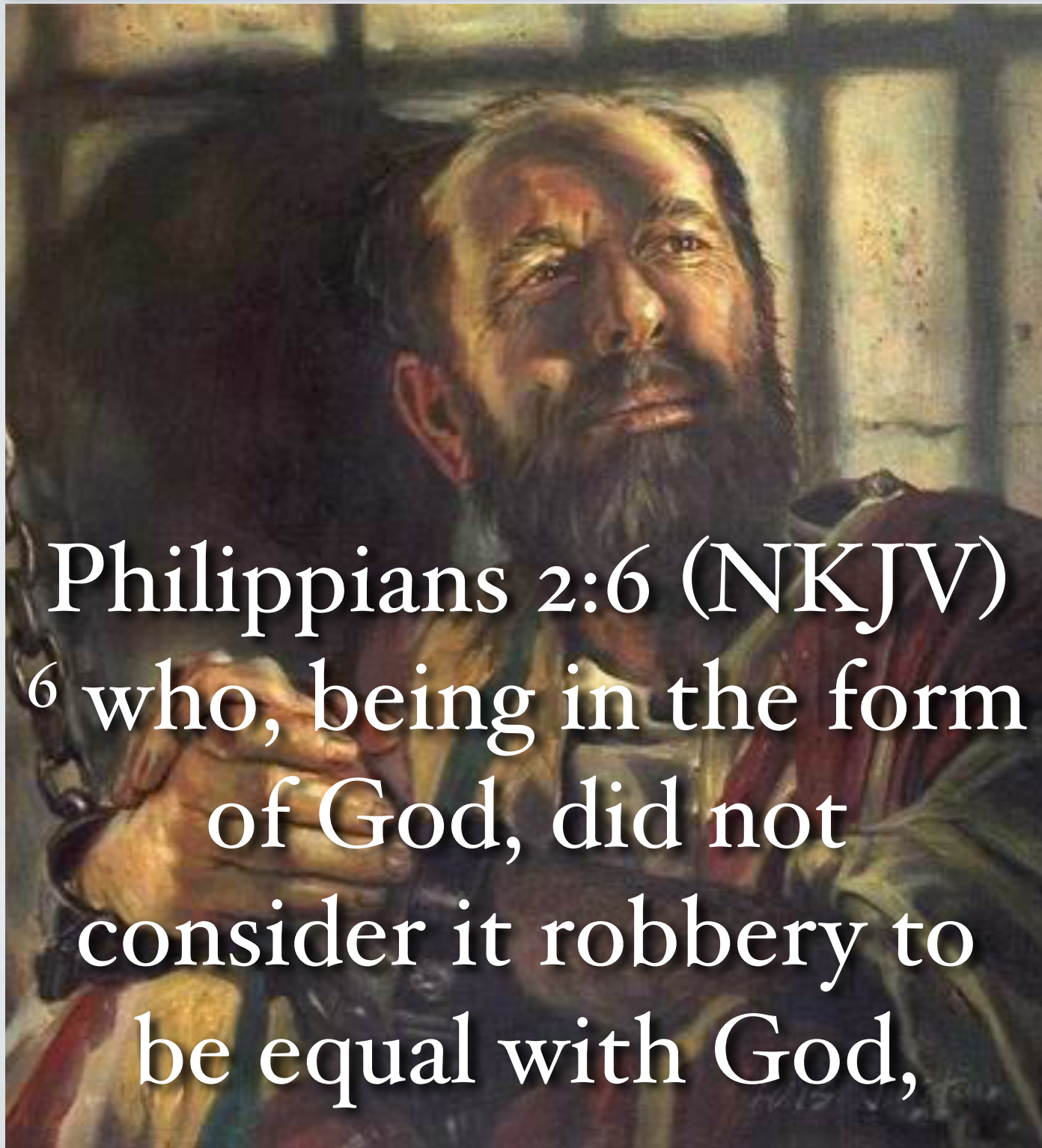
*huparcho* (ὑπάρχω, 5225), ... denotes “**to be, to be in existence,**” involving an “existence” or condition both previous to the circumstances mentioned and continuing after it.

Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). *Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • in the “**FORM**” -

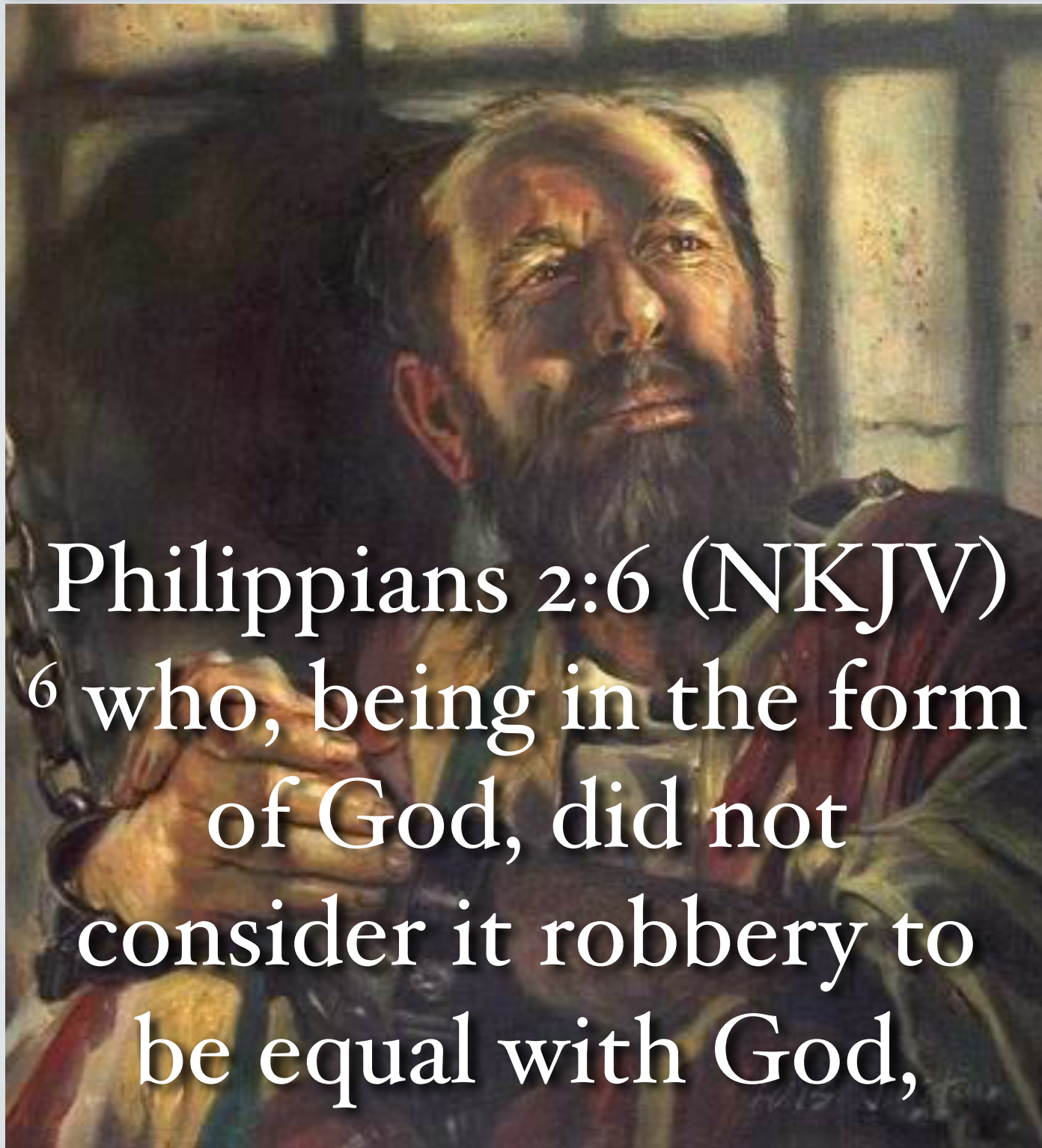
“**58.2 μορφή<sup>a</sup>, ἥς f:** the nature or character of something, with emphasis upon both the internal and external form—‘nature, character.’ ὃς ἐν μορφῇ θεοῦ ὑπάρχων ‘he always had the very nature of God’  
Php 2:6”

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • in the “**FORM**” -

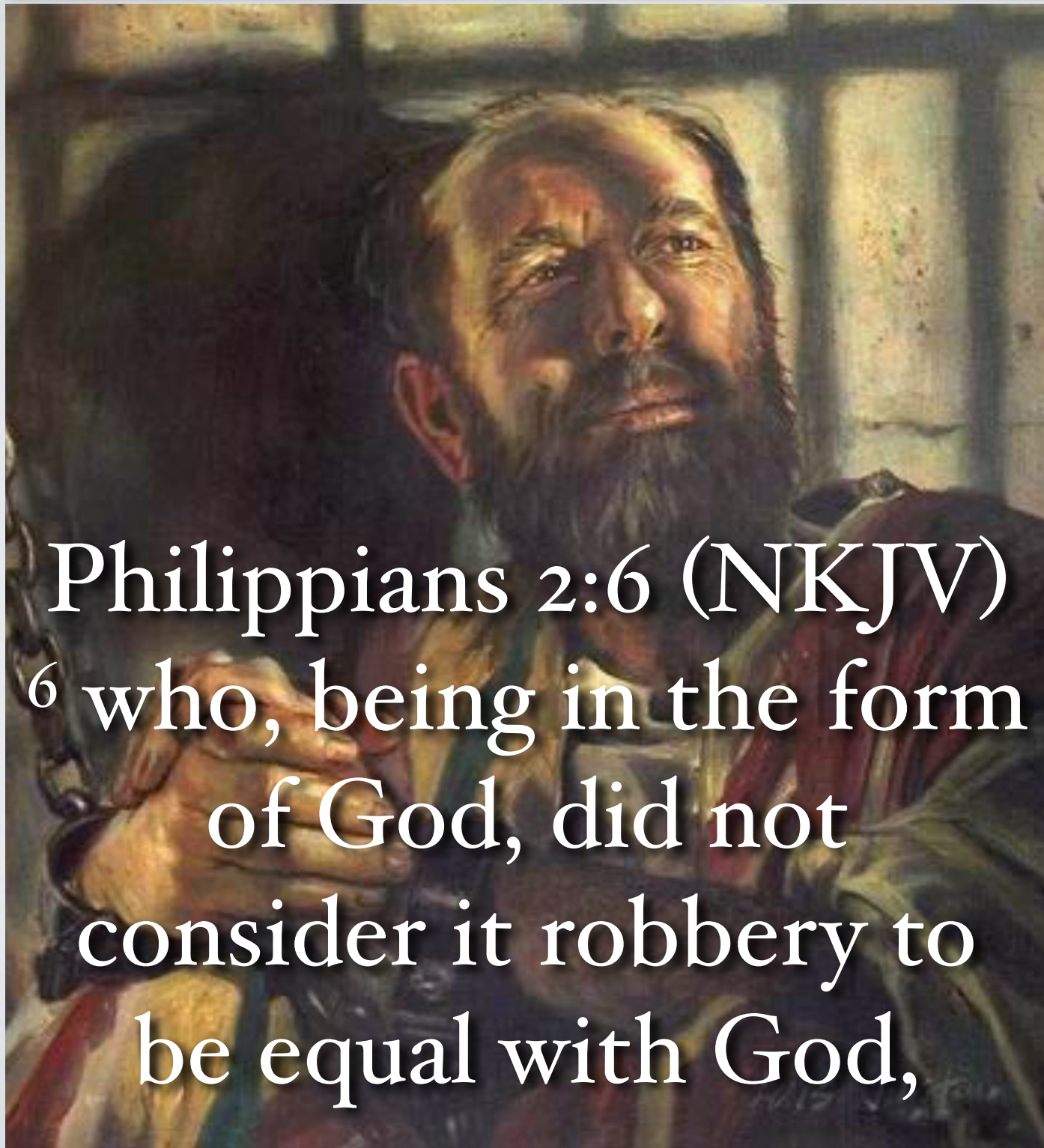
“*morphe* (μορφή, 3444) denotes “the special or characteristic form or feature” of a person or thing; ... “*morphe* is therefore properly the nature or essence, not in the abstract, but as actually subsisting in the individual, ...”

Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • in the “**FORM**” -

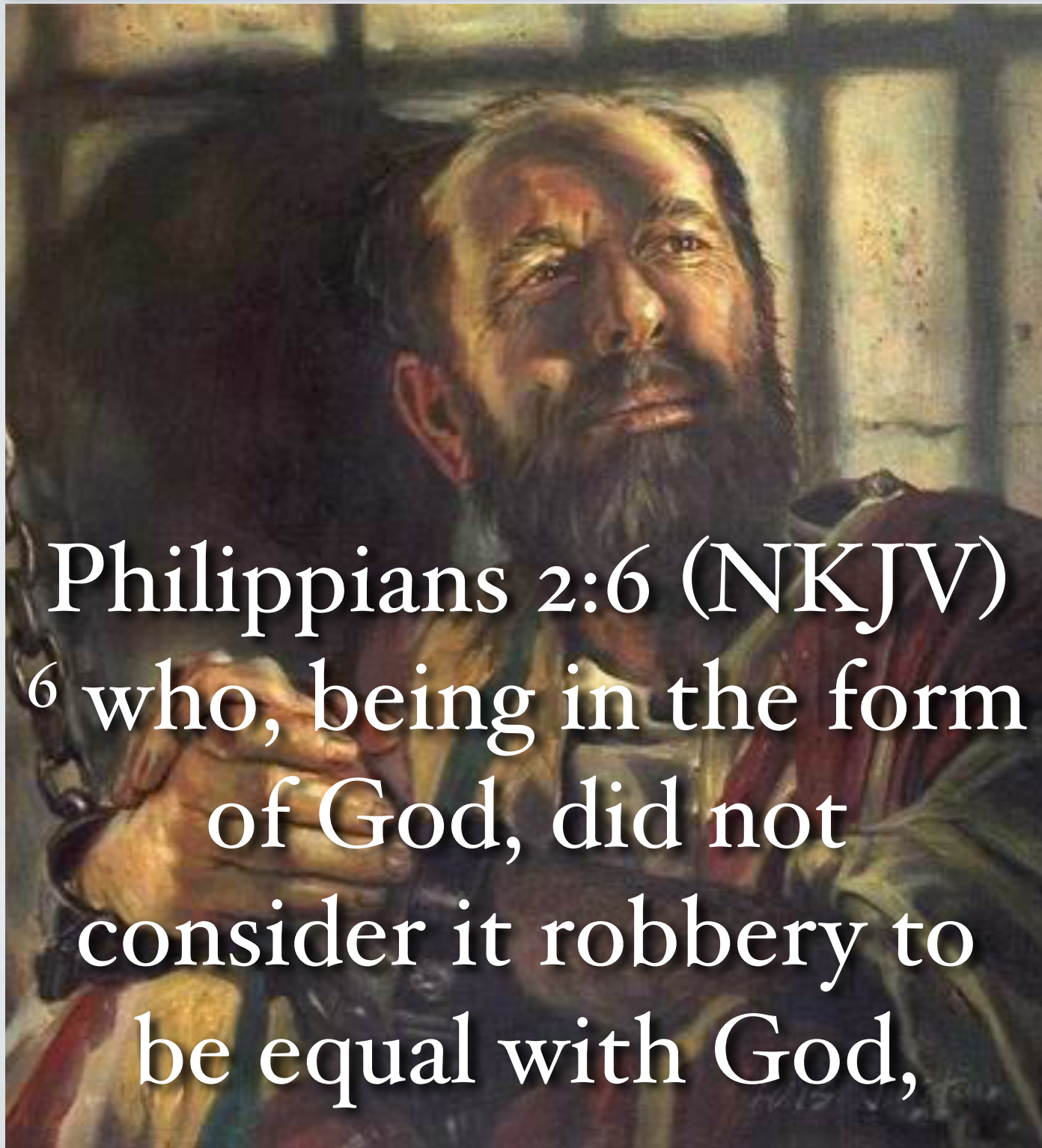
“... Thus in the passage before us *morphe Theou* is the Divine nature actually and inseparably subsisting in the Person of Christ.”

Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



### • **equal / equality**

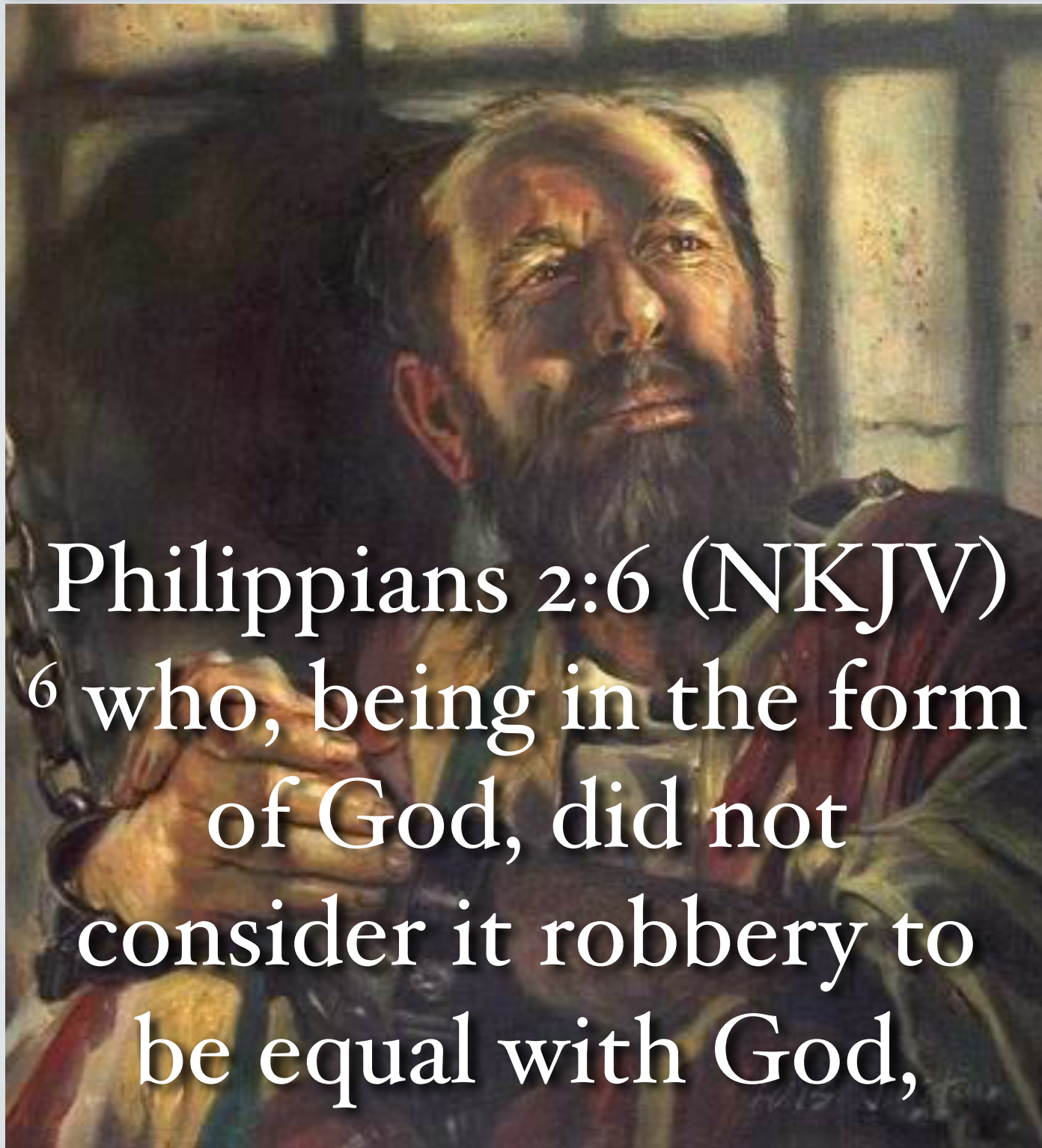
*isos* (ἴσος, 2470), “the same in size, number, quality,” etc., is translated “equal” in John 5:18; Phil. 2:6; in the latter the word is in the neuter plural, lit., “equalities”; “in the rv the words are translated ‘on an equality with God,’

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.



“The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



Philippians 2:6 (NKJV)  
6 who, being in the form  
of God, did not  
consider it robbery to  
be equal with God,

### • **equal / equality**

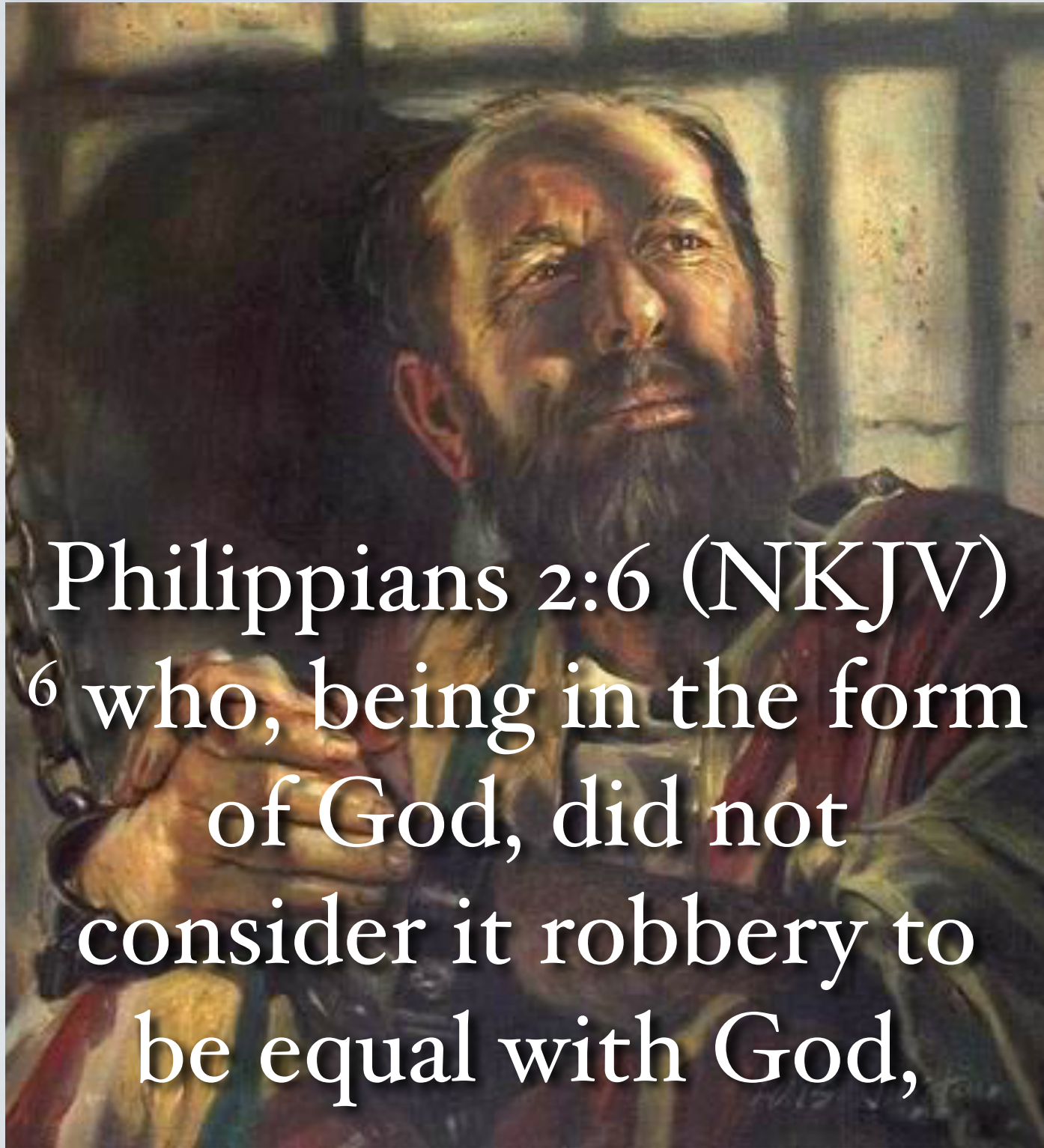
The term  
“equal” (isos) requires  
us to understand that  
in MORPHE, (*the  
state of existence &  
nature*) the Father &  
the Son are EQUAL.

2 Cor. 4:4; Col 1:15; Heb 1:3



“The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



● **“did not consider it robbery to be equal with God”**

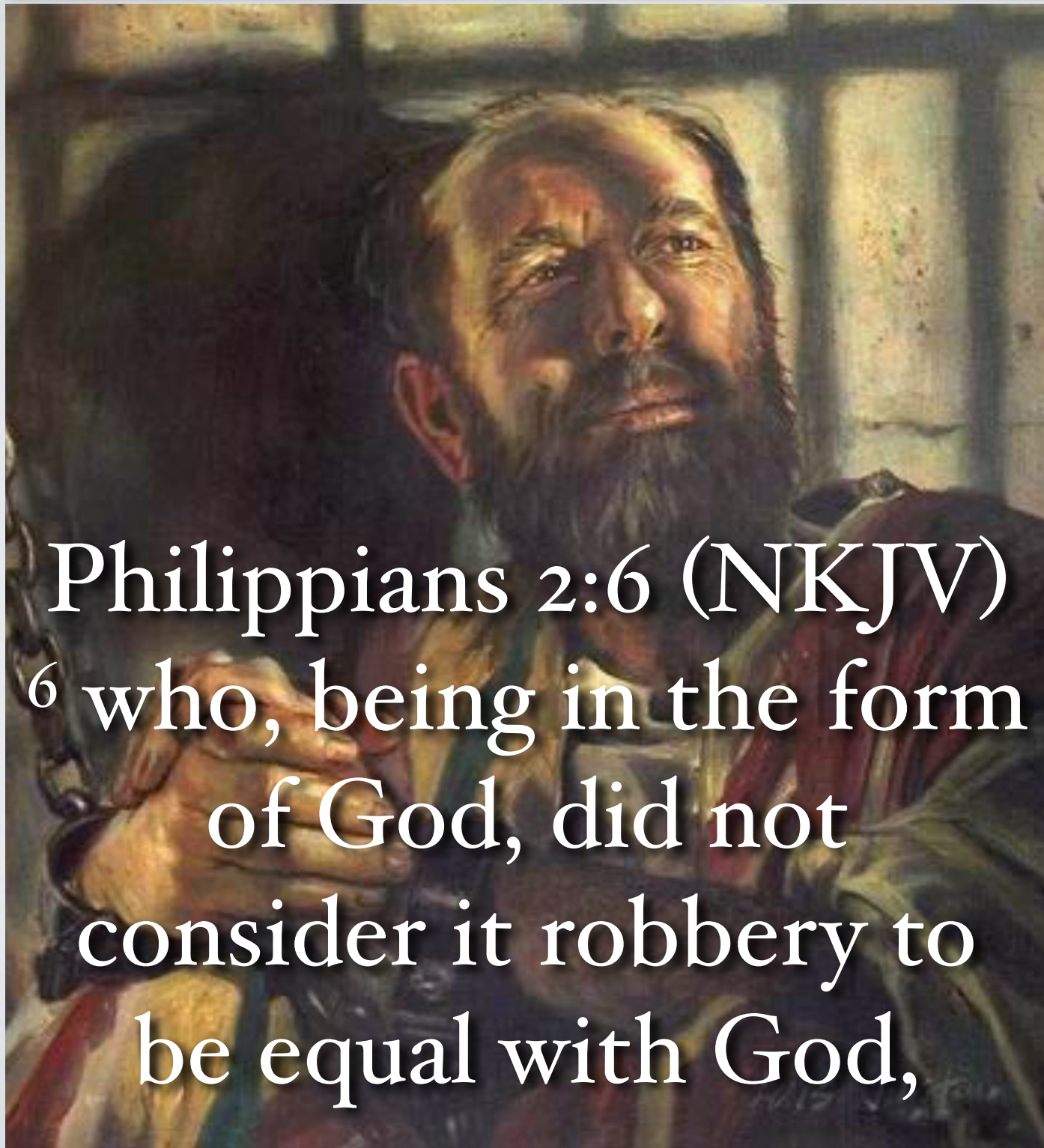
**Phili 2:6 (ESV)**

⁂ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God **a thing to be grasped,**



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



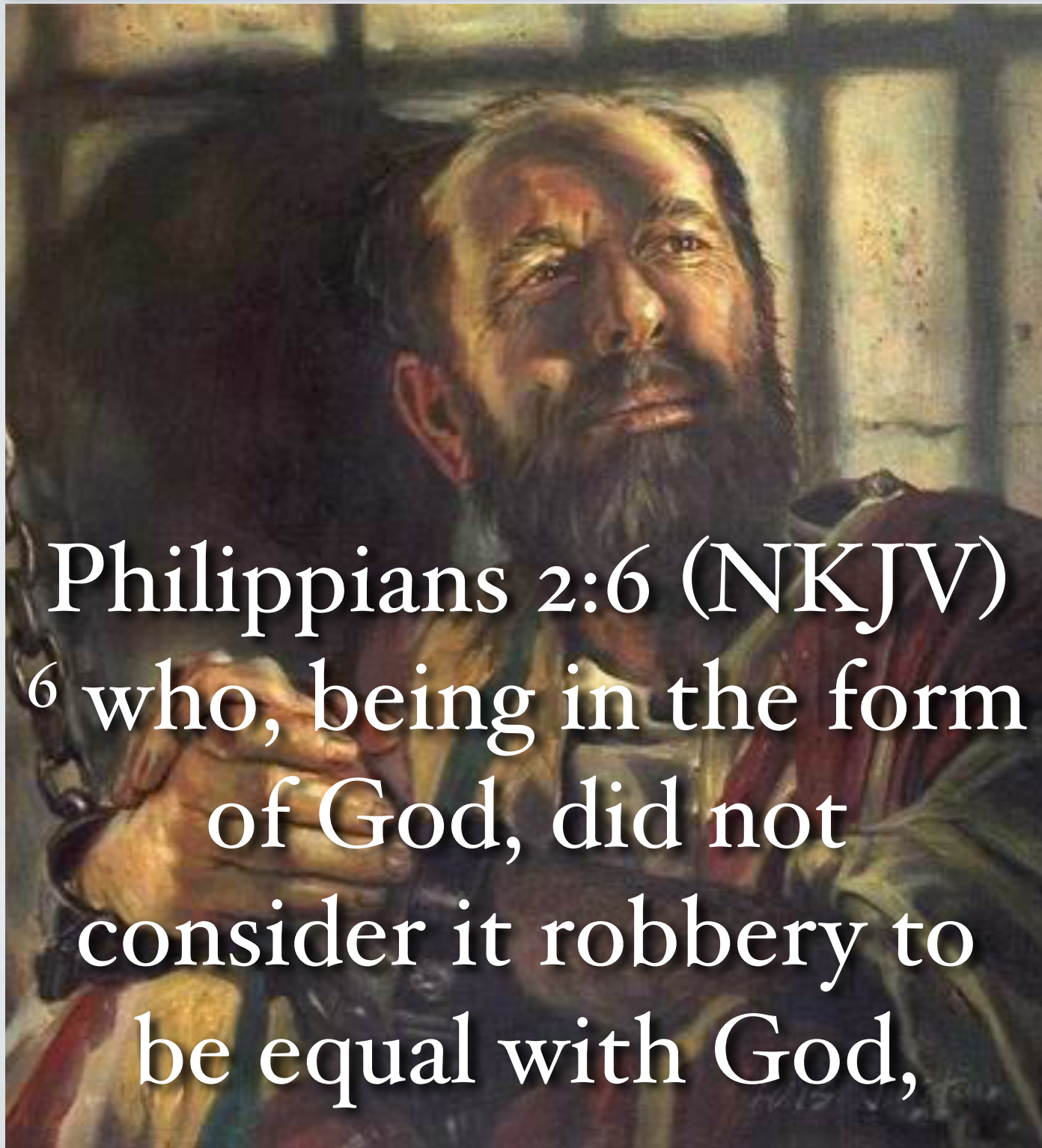
### ● **“did not consider it robbery to be equal with God”**

- Christ did not consider His equality in nature with God (Phil. 2:6) as something to be grasped or held onto.
- In other words Christ did not hesitate to set aside His condition of “equality” for a different condition.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## BEING IN THE FORM OF **GOD**



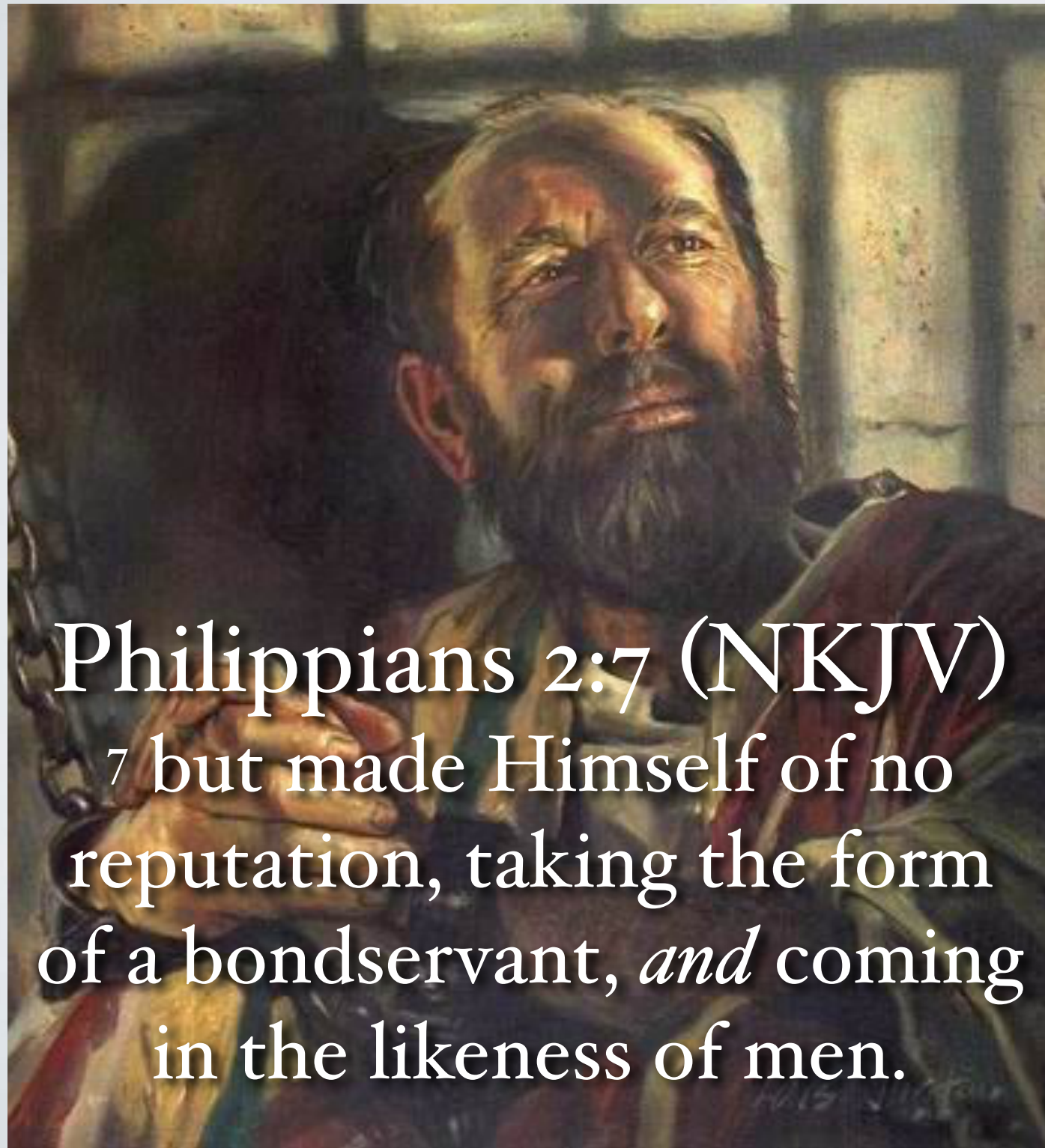
### • **Other Passages confirming Jesus' Pre- incarnate existence**

- Descended from heaven — (John 1:18; 3:13; 6:62; 1 John 4:9; Rom 10:6; 1 Cor 15:47)
- Creator — (cf. John 1:1,2; Col. 1:15-17; Heb 1:1,2)
- Glory — (John 17:5; 1 John 1:2; Heb 1:3; Rev 1:8; etc.)
- Root & offspring — John 8:56-59; Mat. 22:43-45; Rev. 5:5; 22:16;



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT



- “**but made Himself of no reputation**”

- **ESV** - 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant

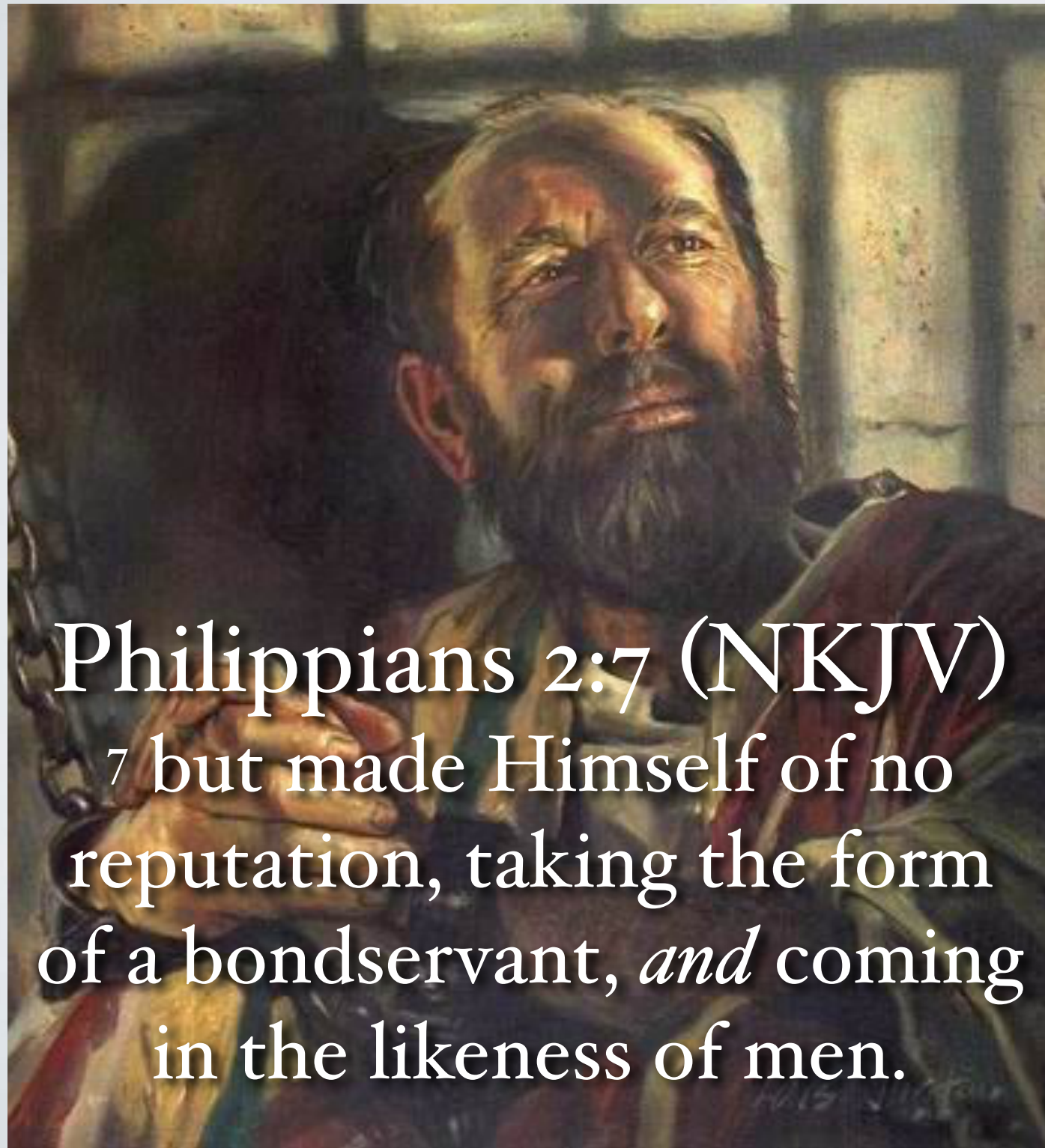
- Jesus **TOOK** upon Himself the **FORM** - cf. John 1:14

- Jesus was **MADE** a little lower than the angels - & “partook” of humanity Heb 2:9, 14, 17, 18.



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT



- **“but made Himself of no reputation”**

- **COMING - ESV -**

being born in the likeness of men - (Rom 8:3; Gal 4:4; John 1:14)

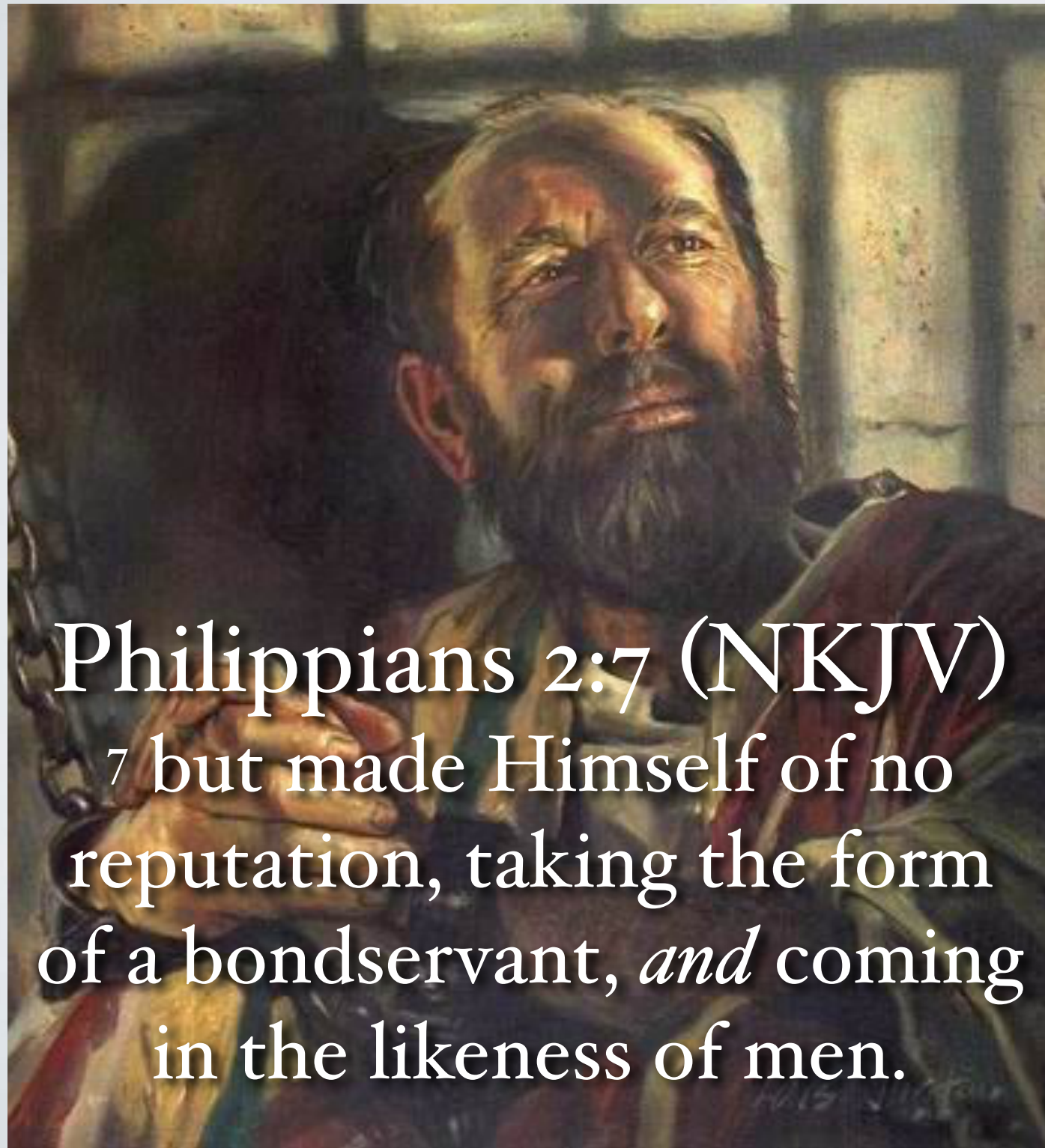
- The Word entered into a new *mode* of being, not a new *being*. (Phili 2:7,8)

- He became flesh, and did not merely *clothe Himself* in flesh. (Heb 2:14-18)



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT



### ● **Experienced Our temptations / sufferings**

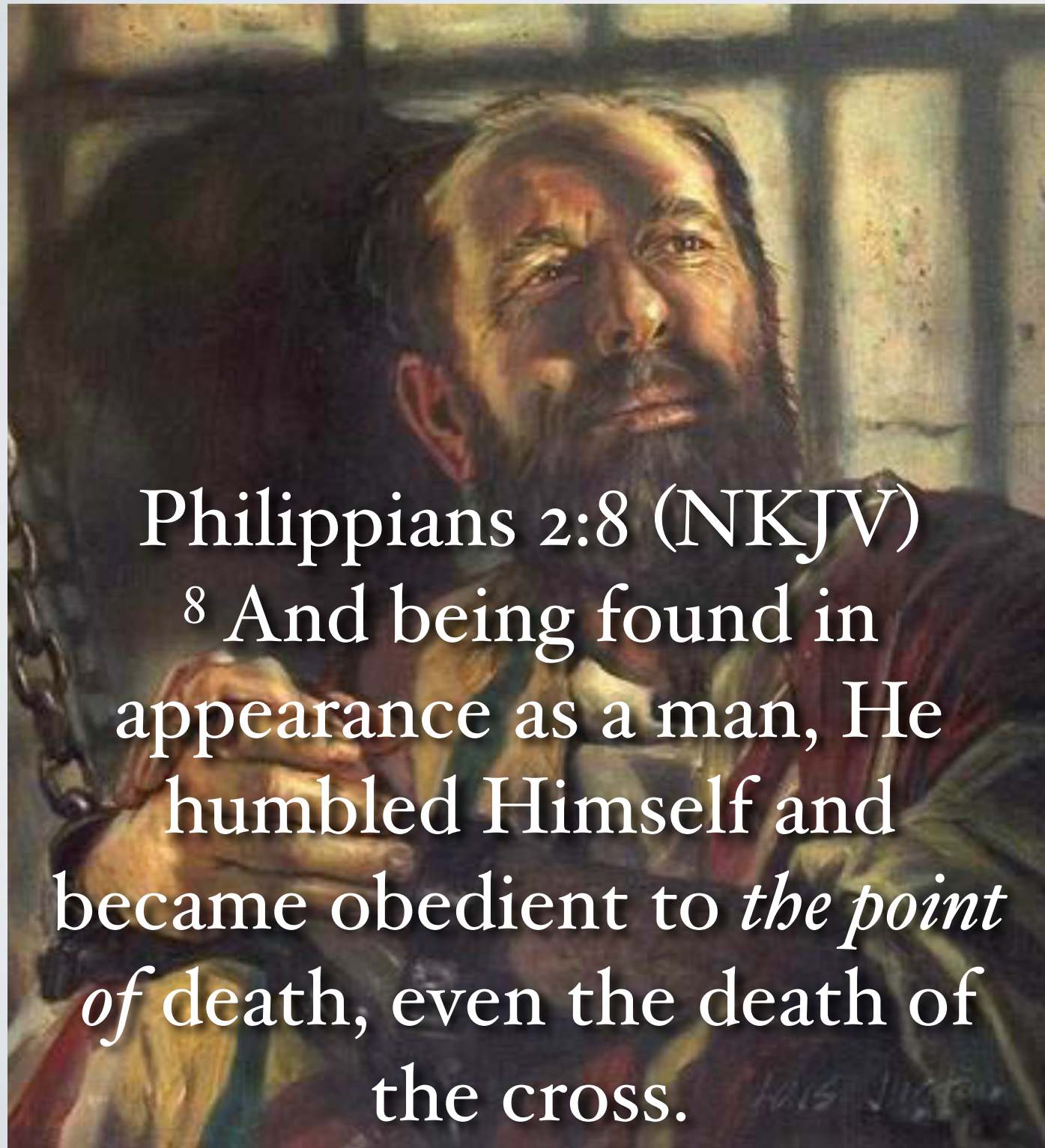
- Heb 2:14,17-18; 4:15; 5:7

- Hungered –
- Got Thirsty –
- Learned –
- Prayed –
- Was Tempted -
- Suffered –
- Died –
- Was Resurrected -



# “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

## TAKING THE FORM OF A BONDSERVANT



Philippians 2:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross.

### ● “He humbled Himself”

- He came to do the will of the Father — Mat. 26:39; John 6:38; 10:18; 14:31; 17:4)
- Consider Hebrews 5:8,9 - <sup>8</sup> though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience ...
- To bear OUR reproach - cf. Rom 5:19; 15:1-3; Isa 53:4-6



“The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

# EXALTED ABOVE EVERY NAME

## **Philippians 2:9–11 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



“The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

# EXALTED ABOVE EVERY NAME



## • **We all will BOW**

- God's love is manifested through and in the sacrifice of Jesus - Rom 5:8-10; 1 Jno. 3:16; 4:9, 10.
- Do we truly understand and appreciate the greatness of Jesus' sacrifice? - Phil. 2:6-9; Hebrews 2:9-18
- IS JESUS YOUR LORD NOW?







# PHILIPPIANS — JOY NO MATTER WHAT

## “The Humbled & Exalted Christ”

**Charts by Don McClain**

Preached February 11, 2018

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# HEBREWS 2:9-18 (NKJV)

⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.



# HEBREWS 2:9-18 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, <sup>12</sup> saying: “*I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.*” <sup>13</sup> And again: “*I will put My trust in Him.*” And again: “*Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.*”



# HEBREWS 2:9-18 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

<sup>16</sup> For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.



## HEBREWS 2:9-18 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.