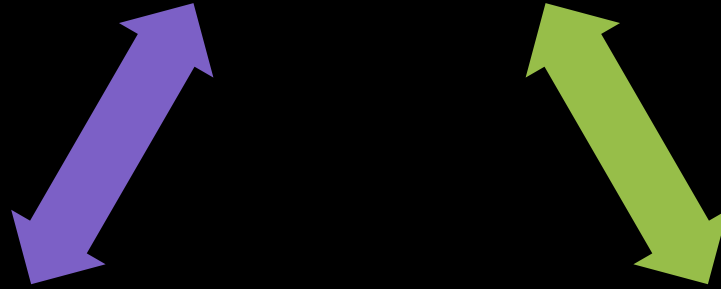


Jesus



Love



Scripture

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the **form of God**, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup> but **emptied himself**, taking the **form of a slave**, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup> he **humbled himself**

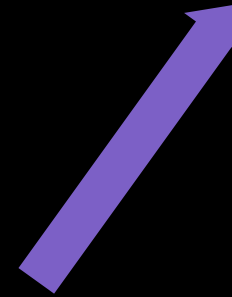
and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

(NRSV)

Christ in  
the “form”  
of God

Highly exalted  
“Name above  
every name”  
**Jesus is Lord**



“Emptied himself”  
“Form of a slave”  
“Humbled himself”  
Death on a cross

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also **highly exalted** him  
and gave him the name  
that is **above every name**,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the **glory** of God the Father.

“...Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

- Matt 20:28 (NRSV)



From Palmer Becker,  
*Anabaptist Essentials*

# Authorities & loyalties

- Jesus and his teachings
- One's true self found in Christ
- Government leaders
- Leaders of institutions
- Community/family loyalties
- Ideologies
- The (false) self
- Powers and principalities (Eph 6)

- Jesus is our highest authority
  - We follow Jesus before following anything else
- Jesus is the upside-down “Lord”
  - Service, humility, self-emptying, self-giving love
- To claim Jesus as our “Lord” we have to reflect the same spirit of humility and self-giving love as Jesus



# Questions

1. What other loyalties test your primary allegiance to Jesus?
2. How do we know if we are giving something else primacy over Jesus?
3. What is the difference between imagining Jesus to be a domineering “lord” versus an upside-down “lord” who came to serve and give his life?