

**THE GOSPEL REVEALED AT ADVENT**  
**CHRISTMAS IS ~~IN~~DEPENDENCE DAY**

Pastor David O'Dowd

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**Philippians 2.5-7** Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who though existing in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, taking the likeness of men... *(my translation)*

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**God took on dependency that you might enter into fellowship with him by glorying in the glory of his Son.**

**John 1.1-5** ...the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not mastered it.

**ONE: God and His Christ are eternally self-existent.**

*Exodus 3.14; Isaiah 44.6; Acts 17.24-25; John 5.26;  
Colossians.1.6-17; Acts 3.15; John 8.38*

**TWO: The Independent God took on flesh and became dependent that God might be reconciled to men and we be restored to fellowship with God.**

*Philippians 2.1-10*

*Augustine* –God became a man for this purpose: since you, a human being, could not reach God, but you can reach other humans, you might now reach God through a man. And so the man Christ Jesus became the mediator of God and human beings. God became a man so that following a man—something

you are able to do—you might reach God, which was formerly impossible to you.

**THREE: Enter into his fellowship by glorying in Christ's glory, and one day you will be glorified, too.**

*Philippians 1.27-2.11; Isaiah 53.3; James 1.27-2.5; Romans 8.28-28, 32*