

The Exalted Jesus Is Our Lord and Treasure

Philippians 2:9-11

- October 4th, 11th, 18th in 2020
 - Paul has emphasized humility, selflessness, and love, because of Jesus's example and enabling, gripping our hearts with the description of Jesus's sacrifice. He adds to that with Jesus's exaltation, and the response of worship and submission.
 - Last week: The incarnation, life, and death of Jesus are the ultimate motivation for humility, selflessness, and love, along with simple adoration at the depth of what he has done in saving us.
 - This week: The Father's exaltation of Jesus, which encompasses his resurrection and more, causes all to bow to him and confess that he is Lord. This reality of the glory of Jesus and the all-encompassing response speaks in joy to believers, and urgency to unbelievers.
- I. Vs. 1-4 - We are called to love, likemindedness, and selfless humility because of the depth of gospel realities we experience.
 - A. Vs. 1 - Gospel blessings are exhaustive and compelling.
 - B. Vs. 2-4 - These realities have a profound effect, leading to unity, love, likemindedness, and selflessness.
 - II. Vs. 5-8 - Jesus's Gospel work is the example and enablement for this mindset, and this is captivating, and sufficient.
 - A. Vs. 5 - This mindset is ours because of who we are in our union with Jesus.
 - B. Vs. 6-8 - And there is immeasurable depth in what he did to save us. This stands alone in its gospel glory, and compels and enables us to reflect his heart.
 1. Vs. 6 - He has eternally existed as the Son of God, yet laid aside the privilege associated with this to save us.
 2. Vs. 7 - His emptying of himself, servanthood, and humanity are glorious and compelling.
 3. Vs. 8 - As God and man, his humility, obedience, and death are ultimately glorious and ultimately compelling.
 - III. Vs. 9 - God's exaltation of Jesus and giving him the uniqueness of the name Lord is likewise glorious and compelling.
 - **Vs. 9** - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
 - A. This is a response to his humility and sacrifice.
 - "Therefore." Pleased (Mt. 17:5; Jn. 13:31 - Now is the Son...). Sufficient (Jn. 19:30). Love (Jn. 3:35 - The Father...).
 - It is clear from Re. 5:9 and 12 that Jesus's exaltation will always be centered in the cross.⁹ "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation...¹² "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"
 - Is. 52:13 - "My servant shall act wisely, he shall be high and lifted up, and exalted."
 - B. It encompasses Jesus's resurrection, ascension, intercession, and present and future glory and reign.
 - There's much in the fullness of the Father highly exalting Jesus. Ac. 2:33 - Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit... Mt. 28:18 - All authority... Ro. 8:34 - Who is to condemn? 2 Th. 1:10 - When he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed...
 - Though Jesus has always existed in infinite glory, after his incarnation, servanthood, and death comes the "beginning" of this exaltation, the resurrection. **Turn to Jn. 20:11-20; 1 Co. 15:20-28.**
 - C. The truths that are a reality because of this resurrection are profound.
 - Wrath was satisfied (Ro. 3:21-26). The Father was pleased. Death was defeated (Ac. 2:24). We will rise again (1 Co. 15:42-49). Satan's "realm" has been vanquished (He. 2:14). The power that raised Jesus is ours (Ro. 8:11).
 - The exaltation does not end at the resurrection. The currently exalted Christ mediates resurrection benefits.
 - What is the name that the Father has bestowed on Jesus? Paul is likely referring to the term for God in the OT - "Yahweh," which in the Greek Septuagint is translated as "Kyrios," Lord, which vs. 11 says.

- This “name that is above every name,” Lord, combined with his human name, Jesus, and Christ, the promised Messiah, emphasizes his supremacy over all. As God, and as man, he reigns in peerless value. Vs. 11 - “Jesus Christ is Lord.”
 - To the glory that has always been Christ’s as the eternal God and Creator of the universe, a new and glory has been added: through his descent he has rescued his enemies and turned us into beloved children of his Father!
 - Now, because of his suffering and his Father’s exalting him, we are captivated by the glory of God’s grace: John 17:24 - “Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory.” Next verse.
- IV. Vs. 10-11 - This exaltation leads to two responses that have similarity but are also vastly different: humble willful worship and submission to Jesus as Lord, or a too-late recognition of what was not believed and received.
- This is the love Paul has urged and Jesus has modeled. The Father, in love, exalts Jesus, **for Jesus to be treasured.**
 - **Vs. 10 - So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, Vs. 11 - and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**
 - I believe knees bowing and tongues confessing are one action - the knees bow and the tongues confess, in response to the comprehensive exaltation of Jesus. This is referring to the future, when believers are in Jesus’s presence, and unbelievers are judged and condemned. No being in existence is discluded from willing or not participation.
 - This is recognizing Jesus is the only way of salvation; that he alone is the purpose, center, and fulfillment of God’s eternal plan of redemption; that all he said is true; that he alone, in contrast to everyone else, is gloriously exalted; that the eternal Son of God, who became human, and is the Christ, is Lord - Savior, King, and Sovereign Ruler.
 - Vs. 11 is a reference to Is. 45:22-23 - ²²“Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. ²³By myself I have sworn; from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return: ‘To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance.’ Jesus is recognized as the God who says this.
- A. For those with faith, this is our future hope, but shapes us now.
- There is coming a time when this will be our real experience, as the Father’s exaltation of Jesus generates and eternal glad response of bowing and proclaiming that he is Lord. We will experience the fullness of his glory. 1 Jn. 3:2 - We shall see him as he is. 1 Co. 13:12 - For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face.
 - Yet this also speaks to us now. It speaks of submission to him as Lord now. It speaks of gratitude and worship now. It speaks of seeing and savoring every aspect of his life, death, and exaltation, including the resurrection, now.
 - 2 Co. 3:18 - And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.
 - It also relates to what Paul’s subject matter is: Jesus’s humility led to this, so we live in that humility. This is a future physical event, yet to live in this now is to live in humble submission to the one who **was** what Paul is exhorting.
 - God’s purpose for us for eternity is to be humbly struck by Jesus’s humility, sacrifice, and exaltation. That compels us now, in humility, and in worship. He. 2:9 - But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death... Responses to resurrection in NT.
 - What is God’s purpose for his creation? Worship! God’s chief end is his own worship - the display of his glory to compel the adoration of sinful, yet redeemed humans. And the means of this is what has been said. And the center of this joy and satisfaction is the reality that he has brought us to life in Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection.
 - The Father delights to honor Jesus for his accomplishment of his redemptive mission, and the honor bestowed on Jesus displays in even greater fullness the glory of the Father.
- B. For unbelievers, this is immeasurably terrifying, for it is certain, but will be too late trust Jesus as Savior.
- There is coming a time when all who do not trust and love Jesus, all the way to Satan, will, in response to the final fullness of his exaltation, be compelled to recognize that this one they rejected is Lord of all. Jn. 14:6.
 - Re. 20:15 - And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.
 - If you haven’t believed, may the fullness of immeasurable glory and glad response, and the certainty of too-late recognition, compel you to trust and treasure Jesus today. Look to glory, here, and in the cross and resurrection.