

Series: Making Much of the Master

GOD ALSO HATH HIGHLY EXALTED

HIM

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Text: Philippians 2:9

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⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Introduction:

Our theme as we begin this New Year is Making Much of the Master.

In our text, the Paul, speaks of the Lord as the mightiest among the mighty, the Holiest among the holy, the greatest among the great and the loftiest among the lofty.

Paul declares that Jesus is more than prominent.

He is Pre-eminent.

He is the Lord.

The songwriter, Thomas Hastings, said it well:

No mortal can with Him compare,
Among the sons of men,
Fairer is he than all the fair,
Who fills the heavenly train.

I would like at how the Lord is described in our text today.

Note:

1. WE SEE HIM AS THE ETERNAL SON

Philippians 2:6

⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

We see in this verse the Lord described, defined, and declared as the Eternal Son.

A. We see that Jesus is equally God.

The word equal means to be on par with.

Remember:

It is not God the Father in the number one position followed by Jesus in the number two position. It is one God that has expressed Himself in three persons, thus they are equally the same.

Note John 5:18

John 5:18

¹⁸ *Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*

We not only see Him as the Eternal Son but also:

2. WE SEE HIM AS THE EARTHLY SERVANT

Philippians 2:6-8

⁶ *Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and **took upon him the form of a servant**, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

The Eternal Son became the earthly Servant. He that was in the form of God took upon Himself the form of a servant.

Note:

A. The Likeness He Assumed

The Son of God became the Son of man. He that was without a heavenly mother in eternity came to earth as a son without an earthly father. He became God in the flesh. God became man.

Now notice how Paul describes the Lord taking upon Himself the form of a servant and the likeness He assumed.

First, Paul tells us what He THOUGHT.

The Lord "thought it not robbery to be equal with God."

The word "thought" refers to a judgment based on facts.

This indicates that in eternity past there was something on His mind.

The thing that was on His mind; the case He thought of; was man as a sinner. The human race was condemned by sin. The sinner needed a Saviour.

He looked at the case, weighed all the facts and came to a certain conclusion. The judgment that He made was: "it was not robbery to be equal with God." The

word "robbery" speaks of "a treasure to be clutched and held onto at all costs."

He looked at His equality with God, and came to the conclusion that it was not a treasure that was to be clutched and held onto at all costs. Even though He expressed Himself outwardly as inwardly being essentially and equally God, there was a need for Him to lay aside that expression and take upon Himself another expression.

He made Himself of "no reputation." These two words literally mean, "He emptied Himself." The case before Him demanded that He empty Himself or make Himself of no reputation.

He that was essentially and equally God therefore set aside His outward expression of deity and assumed the outward expression of humanity. The Eternal Son expressed Himself as the earthly Servant.

Paul tells us what He TOOK. "He took upon Him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man." He that expressed Himself as God now expressed Himself as a servant.

The word "likeness" means, "that which is made like something else." He became man. He took upon Himself the nature of the human race that was condemned.

Now let me say, that when He took upon Himself the form of man He did not give up the form of God. He did not give up His deity to assume humanity. He was fully God and He was fully man.

He was not all God and no man; He was not all man and no God. He was not half God and half man. He was fully God and fully man. He was the God-man.

Note not only the Likeness He Assumed but also:

B. The Life He Abandoned

There was the likeness He assumed and now we see the life He abandoned.

Philippians 2:8

⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

What humility we see in the Lord Jesus. He was that was essentially and equally God was willing to take upon Himself the likeness of man and die upon the cross to save a condemned people from their sins.

The word "humbled" means "to bring low." The cross was considered the most shameful and degrading deaths one could die. It was a form of death reserved

only for criminals and even then, only those who were not citizens of the Roman Empire.

Note Hebrews 12:2

Hebrews 12:2

² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Death on a cross was degrading to humanity, but one can only imagine the degradation to Deity. But in spite of the "shame," He "became obedient unto death, even the death of a cross."

The ideal of the obedient is not that He had to die, but that He was submissive to the Father's will and chose to die.

Illustration:

Dwight L. Moody used to tell the story of the days when the gold fever swept California. A man went west leaving his wife and their boy in New England. Soon He struck it rich and sent for his dear ones. The wife's heart leaped for joy. Taking her boy to New York, she boarded a steamer sailing for San Francisco. The ship had not been out at sea very long before there was a cry of, "Fire! Fire!" On board was a powder magazine

and the captain knew the moment fire reached that store all on board would perish. Lifeboats were launched, but they proved to be too small and too few and were quickly overcrowded. As the last boat pushed away, the mother pled with the boatman to take her and her boy. "No, I dare not take another." But she continued to plead, and at last the boatman consented to take one. Do you think the mother leaped into the boat, leaving her boy to perish with the others? No, she seized him, gave him one last hug, and dropped him into the boat with these parting words, "My boy, if you live to see your father, tell him that I died in your place."

The Son became a Servant. The Servant became a Substitute. He assumed our likeness that He might abandon His life. He died that we might live. He died in our place.

Note only do we see Him as the Eternal Son and the Earthly Servant, but lastly:

3. WE SEE HIM AS THE EXALTED SAVIOUR

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Today He is not a cross but is wearing a crown.

We no longer see Him as a dying servant but our reigning Lord.

We see Him as the worthy One

Because the Eternal Son became the earthly Servant, God hath made Him the exalted Saviour. The words "highly exalted" mean to "exalt to the highest rank and power, to raise to supreme majesty."

He has been given "The name which is above every name." The words "a name" are literally "The name." This is actually a title that denotes office, rank, and dignity.

Jesus is One with THE NAME. He ranks as no other in majesty, dignity, and glory.

Note:

John 3:31

³¹ *He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.*

B. We See Him As the Worshipped One

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ *Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

The Worthy One is the Worshipped One. The exalted One is the extolled One. "The Name" should be and shall be worshipped.

Paul tells us that all creation will bow at His feet. "Things in heaven" will bow at the name of Jesus. Angels, archangels, cherubim, and seraphim will worship Him. All of heaven will worship Him.

"Things in earth" will bow at the name of Jesus. Every man, woman, and child will bow at His feet. All of humanity will worship Him.

"Things under the earth" shall bow at the name of Jesus. Even the dead will be raised and will worship Him. All of hell will worship Him.

We also see the ACKNOWLEDGMENT of His Name. Paul said in verse 11, "And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

He is the Exalted Saviour!

The song writer wrote:

All hail the power of Jesus name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Illustration:

E. P Scott was a pioneer missionary to India. One day he found himself surrounded by a murderous band of tribesmen. On impulse, he took out his violin and began to play and sing, "All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name." When he reached the stanza "let every kindred and every tribe" he saw to his surprise every spear lowered and many of the tribesman moved to tears.

One day at the name of Jesus every tribesman will lay down their spears, every blasphemer will silence their

attacks, every agnostic will abandon their beliefs, and every king and queen will lay down their crowns and acknowledge Him to be Lord.

Close:

God has given Him a name which is above every name, and you'll find him throughout the Word of God.

JESUS IS THE LILY OF THE VALLEY

JESUS IS THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR

JESUS IS THE ROSE OF SHARON

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

JESUS IS THE BREAD OF LIFE

JESUS IS THE RESSURRECTION AND THE LIFE

JESUS IS THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

JESUS IS THE ROCK OF AGES

JESUS IS THE CLEFT OF THE ROCK THAT COVERED
MOSES

JESUS IS THE BRAZEN SERPENT THAT WAS LIFTED UP IN
THE WILDERNESS

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

JESUS IS THE PRINCE OF PEACE

JESUS IS THE WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

JESUS IS THE DELIVERER

JESUS IS THE ELDER BROTHER

JESUS IS THE ALL PROVIDER

HIS NAME IS JESUS

HE IS THE GREAT SHEPHERD

JESUS IS THE GREAT SHEPHERD OF MY SOUL