

Lesson Notes: Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV based)

READ: Philippians 2:9-11, with vv.5-8 for context

What was the Father's response to Jesus' attitude and corresponding behaviors, as cited in vv.5-8?

v.9

- - The Father exalted Jesus.
- - The Father exalted Jesus "to the highest place".
- - The Father exalted Jesus by "giving Him the name that is above every name".

v.10

- - The Father forces all people to bow to Jesus.

v.11

- - The Father forces all people to verbally "confess that Jesus Christ is Lord".
- - These actions of the Father effectively force all humans to acknowledge that Jesus is not just fully human, He is also fully God, and worthy to reign supreme over the entire universe as God, like the Father does. (cf. Isaiah 45:22-23)
- - This exaltation of Jesus brings glory to the Father, just as it brings glory to the Son.
- - In essence, the Father raised Jesus' status above what it was before Jesus lowered Himself.
- - And the Father is declaring to all of the universe that Jesus is worthy of this exaltation above all of the universe and by all of the universe.

Can we expect God to respond to our lowering of ourselves in a similar way to how He responded to Jesus' lowering of Himself to be a servant?

- - Matthew 19:28-30 - they will receive 100 times as much as what they sacrificed, and some people will be elevated to be first;
- - Mark 9:33-35 - those who were "the very last, and the servant of all" will be elevated to first;
- - Mark 10:28-31 - those who have left home or their families or their occupations for Christ and the gospel will receive 100 times as much as what they gave up.

What can unbelievers expect to experience when they are forced to bow their knee and confess Jesus Christ is Lord? Agnostics and atheists? Demons and Satan?

How do you anticipate you will respond on Judgment Day when you are forced to bow your knee and confess Jesus Christ is Lord?

Theologically, what is your view of Jesus, who He is, what He is, and what His relationship with the Father is?

During the time you have been alive on this earth, what have you been verbalizing Jesus as, the words you use when saying His name or describing His nature? A cuss word? A fabricated character in a mythical fairy tale story - like Santa Clause? Merely a popular social activist? Merely a popular moral activist? Merely a humanitarian? A

demon-possessed rabbi (religious teacher of Judaism)? Merely a good prophet? An angel? Or, God Himself, in a human body?

Do you need to change your evaluation of Jesus, who and what He is?

And if you change your evaluation of Jesus, do you need to also change your beliefs in Jesus, why He came to earth and what He accomplished while here, particularly in regard to His death and subsequent resurrection?

And if you change your beliefs in Jesus, do you need to also change your position about how Jesus relates to you, on a personal level, whether and how what He accomplished through His death on the cross applies to you personally?

MAIN POINT: What would you say is the main point in these verses?

IMPORTANT SUB-POINTS: What are some other important points God is making here in these verses?

APPLICATIONS: What applications can you think of for how we should respond to the concepts in these verses?

PERSONALIZED APPLICATIONS: From these verses, what do you think God wants you to learn, or know, or remember, or put into effect in your life? How are you going to do that?

Works Cited:
Bible. "The Holy Bible: New International Version." *The Bible Library CD-ROM*. Oklahoma City, OK: Ellis Enterprises, 1988.

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