**Jesus Above Every Name**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Philippians 2:9-18**

**Wednesday Evening**

**February 23, 2022**

**Philippians 2:9-18**

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

**9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,**

Saints, because Christ willingly set aside his glory to totally obey the Father’s will, God raised him up to the heights of heaven.

God did not leave Christ in the grave but raised him from the dead, brought him back up to heaven, and glorified him.

**Acts 2:33**

“Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear”

**Ephesians 1:20-23**

20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

**Hebrews 1:3**

“who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”

Saints, God gave Jesus all authority and made him the Lord of both the dead and the living.

**Matthew 28:18**

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

**John 5:27**

“and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man”

**Romans 14:9**

“For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living”

Saints, Jesus’ name is above every other name refers not to Jesus’ title, but instead to his name that signifies his person. In the Bible, names often reveal a person’s character. Jesus’ dignity and honor are above all others.

Because Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but willingly obeyed God in order to carry out the plan of salvation, God honored that obedience by giving Jesus this name above all names.

**10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,**

Saints, in keeping with Jesus’ exaltation and power, one day every knee will bow before him. In heaven refers to the angels; on earth means all humanity; under the earth refers to the underworld—possibly to unsaved people who have died or to demons.

Those who love Jesus will bow in adoration and worship; those who refused to acknowledge him will bow in submission and fear.

**Ephesians 4:9-10**

9(Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

**Revelations 5:13**

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

Saints, this will take place at Jesus’ second coming when the forces of evil will be completely defeated and God will form a new heaven and a new earth.

**Revelation 19:20**

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone”

**Revelation 21:1**

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea”

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

Saints, every tongue will confess the basic truth of Christianity: Jesus Christ is Lord.

This does not mean that eventually everyone will be saved. Every tongue in heaven, on earth, and under the earth will recognize Jesus as Lord, either because of belief or because of mere acknowledgment of the undisputable fact.

Saints, no tongue will be silent; no knee will remain unbowed. All of creation will recognize Jesus Christ as Lord.

**12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.**

Saints, the Philippian church was dear to Paul’s heart. He didn’t want his absence from them to be a detriment to their spiritual growth. So he requested that they always be careful to follow his instructions, even while he was away.

They must put into action God’s saving work by obeying God with deep reverence and fear. Paul was calling the entire church to work together to rid themselves of divisions and discord. Although believers are saved once for all when they accept Jesus Christ as Lord, it is in the grind of everyday life that salvation is put into action.

Paul wanted the Philippians to put their salvation into practice for the health of the church. As they did so, they would not do it on their own. Through his Holy Spirit, God would be working in them for the tasks he wanted them to do.

**1 Corinthians 12:4-7**

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

Saints, Jesus would give the Philippians the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him to bring true unity to the church. God works in believers; believers do God’s work. Believers are partners with God.

**14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,**

Saints, Paul had advice for how they could go about acting out their faith—they should stay away from complaining and arguing. Paul returned to the basic problem described in 2:1-4, the arrogance that leads to dissension.

Saints, complaining translates from a word that describes a bad attitude which expresses itself in constant grumbling. The word for arguing has a legal connotation and may refer to the Philippian Christians going to civil courts to settle their differences, an action Paul condemned elsewhere.

**1 Corinthians 6:1-11**

1 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? 2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

3 Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life? 4 If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge? 5 I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren?

6 But brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers! 7 Now therefore, it is already an utter failure for you that you go to law against one another. Why do you not rather accept wrong? Why do you not rather let yourselves be cheated? 8 No, you yourselves do wrong and cheat, and you do these things to your brethren!

9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Saints, complaining and arguing are completely opposite to Christ’s attitude, which believers are to emulate. They also give people a bad impression of the church, and no one should be able to speak a word of blame against the believers. If all that people know about a church is that its members constantly argue, complain, and gossip, they get a bad impression of Christ and the gospel.

Unbelievers then feel justified in criticizing the Christians. Probably more churches have split from causes related to arguing and complaining than from heresy. Instead, believers’ lives ought to be clean, meaning beyond reproach, incurring no justifiable criticism.

This does not mean sinless perfection; instead, the church was to be beyond the criticism of the unbelieving world. Their lives also ought to be innocent. There ought to be nothing within the church that would weaken its strength or contaminate the truth.

The church’s members then could be children of God in a dark world full of crooked and perverse people. Without a doubt, the Philippian believers lived in a generation filled with dishonesty and perversion.

While believers are rescued out of the present evil age and are no longer of the world, they are not taken out of the world. They are “in” the world and have been given a commission to go “into” the world with the Good News.

**16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain**.

Saints, the Philippian church should hold tightly to the word of life by spreading the truth of the gospel beyond the doors of the church. To do this, they must be grounded in the truth, refusing to compromise.

When Paul saw the church remaining clean and innocent and holding tightly to the truth as they reached out to a depraved world, he would be proud that his work among them was not useless. Paul had been the first to bring the gospel to Philippi; the church existed because of his preaching.

Paul’s boasting was not prideful, as if he had built the church with his own hands. Instead, his boasting would be like that of a parent over a child who has done well.

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.” In Jesus Name!**