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## EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW

(Philippians 2:9-11)

Series: "Philippians: The Joyful Letter" (Part 12)

...Today is Mother's Day and there are two moms that I want to especially honor. First is my dear wife who gave herself selflessly in the raising of our three children. She is amazing. The second mom is my mother who cared for me during the early years and from whom I first learned to fear the Lord. She was burdened, without the support of her unsaved husband, to have her children in Sunday School in the hopes of their salvation.

...Paul is concluding his second exhortation to the dear Philippian believers calling for a humble selfless serving attitude for each other, just as Jesus had, he concludes by saying that God elevated Jesus to the highest position and granted to Him "The Name that is above every name."

...One day every human being, angel, and demon will bow the knee before Jesus and acknowledge that He is Lord. Today you can voluntarily bow the knee and confess Christ as Lord, or according to this text, God will extract from you a confession that Jesus is Lord before your final destination in hell.

**THREE OBSERVATIONS OF THE FINAL DAY OF HISTORY AS WE NOW KNOW IT.** Ecclesiastes tells, "The end of a matter is better than its beginning." How true!!!!

### I. It Is A Day When All things Will Finally Be Made Right. (v.9)

- A. Just as Jesus was the subject in the earlier verses of this section (vv.6-8), now God the Father is the subject. He is the One here who bestows the honor upon His Beloved Son.
  1. Following Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, the Father placed Him at the highest possible position in the universe.  
...Today, Jesus occupies His divine throne. (See Psalm 110:1)
  2. God the Father gave Jesus "The name above all names."  
...It is not the name Jesus. He already held that name from birth.  
...Notice the progression in this passage, this name was given to Him after He finished His work as Savior. The name given is Lord. This is God's own name as the sovereign almighty God.
- B. Jesus was at the highest position prior to His incarnation, then went to the lowest possible depths to provide us with salvation, then the Father gave Him the highest position.
  1. Think about how our glorious Lord was so abused and despised by men. How hated He was and horribly killed. Then in a matter of days, Jesus was promoted from the lowest point to the highest in the universe. (Far greater than Joseph's promotion.)
  2. Today men still despise Him using His name as a common curse word. But not then!  
...In this we see a glorious picture of when our broken world will be finally fixed, and the curse will be no more. Jesus will reign and evil will be gone. All will be well!

### II. It Is A Day When The Whole Universe Shall Worship The Lord Jesus. (vv.10-11a)

...Such a day is hard to imagine, for today so few people seem be interested in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- A. As a result of Jesus' newly given position as Sovereign Lord over all, every being who has ever existed will bow the knee in acknowledgement of Jesus' triumph over sin and His Lordship over all. Can you imagine this scene? Note the 3 spheres where personal beings exist:
  1. "In heaven." This tells that all the angels and the saints who have passed into the heavens upon death will be there and joyfully bow the knee and acknowledge Jesus.
  2. "On the earth." These are the living human beings alive on the earth when this great day arrives. All will bow and all will confess Jesus.

- 3. "Under the earth." This last group includes Satan, demons, and all people who have died and are in hell. They will finally acknowledge the Lord Jesus just prior to their final doom in Hell and the Lake of Fire.
- B. Not only will knees be bent in worship, but God the Father will extract from hard hearts the acknowledgement through bended knee that Jesus is Lord. Such a confession of Christ will never save, it is too late, but God will have every single person worship His Son.  
...Every single one will "Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

### **III. It Is The Day Of Great Glory To God...For Salvation Is Completed. (v.11b)**

- A. This is the final day of God's great plan of salvation. All is finished. It is certain.
- B. God is magnified through this by displaying Himself for all to see. "Sola Deo Gloria"

#### **SO WHAT? WHAT DIFFERENCE SHOULD THIS MAKE IN YOUR LIFE?**

1. God is calling all of us to be humble and selfless in our relationships with one another and with all we live among. This is the primary application of this passage. Because Jesus is Lord, we must dethrone self. Our motivation to humble ourselves should be love for the Lord and others.
2. This passage ought to encourage you in your trials. Knowing that any suffering or tragedy we face can redound to the glory of God. We often cannot see it, but God is working all things out to a great ending.
3. This ought to encourage us to seek to win others to Christ. In Christ we have escaped "the wrath that is to come." But many near us have not and they in so many words must be urged, "To flee the coming wrath." Today is the day of salvation.
4. If you have never bowed before Jesus as our Savior and Lord, do not delay. Today you can face Him as your Savior, but tomorrow may be too late and you will face Him as Judge. "Believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

#### **Life Group Questions**

1. How does knowing that everything in life and history ends at the feet of Jesus impact the stuff you are doing through today? Does it even make a difference? Does it provide you with hope? What would you say? Can you give a specific example of how this helped you?
2. How have you gone about sharing Jesus with your unsaved friends and neighbors? Knowing their need of Christ, what do you do to help them avoid "The wrath that is to come?"
3. All of redemptive history is ultimately designed to reveal the glory of God. God has put Himself on display in the whole work. What kind of things have you seen more clearly about God through it all?
4. Do you actively consider yourself a servant of Jesus? What does a servant of Jesus look like? Any thoughts?