

14/3/10 (pm) - - Series on Philippians - Sermon 17

Behave Yourself: Have the Same Attitude as Jesus (2)

Philippians 2:9-11

Theme: After His voluntary self-humbling Jesus was exalted by His Father.

Look at How Jesus was Rewarded—His Exaltation by God (2:9-11)

The Father exalts the Son as a response to the Son's self-humbling.

The Father gave Jesus two exaltations:

A) A Present Exaltation (2:9)

- **He exalted Jesus to the highest place.** *Exalted* = hyper-exalted. God raised Jesus to position of unparalleled honour and universal authority.

- **He gave Jesus the Name that is above every other Name.** Some say it is *Jesus*; the majority argue that the name conferred on Jesus by His Father as a gracious gift is God's own name – LORD (Yahweh).

B) A Future Exaltation (2:10-11)

2:10-11 proclaims the universal homage that will be accorded Jesus when He comes in glory at the end of these last days.

- *Every knee shall bow.* This is a mark of extreme abasement and submission. Some will do it gladly. Others because they cannot resist. All will submit but not all will be saved.

*Are you willingly bowing the knee
now?*

- *Every tongue confess that the LORD is Jesus Christ.* Some will do this gladly. Others because they cannot resist. All will confess but not all will be saved.

Are you willingly confessing Jesus is Lord now?

All of this will be to the glory of God
the Father (2:11b).

God graciously rewarded Jesus by
vindicating Him after His death on
the cross and by revealing His
divine nature after His humiliation.

Jesus was given a form of reward
for His self-humbling.

The Christian, Self-humbling and Reward?

Is Paul saying *If you humble yourselves as Jesus humbled Himself, and if you have the same attitude as Jesus had, then God the Father will reward you as He rewarded His Son?*

Other Scriptures teach that the Lord will reward us for service, *cf.* Matt. 6:19-21; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; Eph. 6:7-8.

If we seek to have the same attitude as Jesus in our mutual relations and so foster unity among ourselves, we will be rewarded by our Father for our self-humbling.

Conclusion –Great Incentives

Self-humbling is to be the supreme virtue of each person in Christ.

Great incentives:

- It will stave off disunity and will witness to the surrounding community to the glory of God, *cf.* John 13:34-35.
- It will mean Christ's disciples developing the same mind-set as Christ.

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- It will lead to reward when the child of God is brought home to glory.

May our lives in Christ be characterised by self-humbling!