

## **Jesus: Humbled and Exalted Philippians 2:8-11**

### **Introduction**

The day is coming at the end of history when we will all stand before Jesus Christ and see that he is the Lord of the universe. For those who have trusted Christ, this will be a day of great joy. But for those who have not trusted Christ, this will be a day of weeping and gnashing of teeth.

But God had Paul write about this ahead of time so we could know how important it is that we submit to Jesus Christ as Lord now.

So let's take a look at what Paul says in Philippians 2:8-11 –

### **What did it mean for Jesus to be found in human form? (v.8)**

Before Jesus was in human form, he was in the form of God. This meant that he was equal with God the Father in every way.

But we have all sinned against God, and deserve infinite punishment. And the only way we can be forgiven is if a sinless being suffers infinite punishment in our place. And the only way that could happen was if Jesus became a man so he could die in our place on the cross.

So because Jesus loved us so much, and wanted to save us, he laid aside the powers and privileges that he had as God, and became a man.

### **What else did Jesus do? (v.8)**

Not only did Jesus humble himself by becoming a man. He humbled himself even more by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross.

The cross involved scourging, beating, being nailed to the cross, and then hours of unspeakable agony. At any moment Jesus could have called a halt to all of this, and stopped suffering. But because he loves us so much, he endured it all until sin was entirely paid for.

### **What did God the Father do?**

God highly exalted him, by raising him from the dead, and giving him the name above every name – the name Lord.

### **What does this mean for us?**

It means that Jesus Christ is Lord. He is our rightful authority.

So love his Lordship. Trust his Lordship. Submit to his Lordship.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

*(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)*

How do you feel about Jesus' Lordship? Are there times when you are more prone to welcoming Jesus' Lordship? Are there times when you are less welcoming of his Lordship? What's the difference?

Can you see how, because of Jesus' becoming a man and humbling himself to the point of dying on the cross, he is the rightful Lord over all of us? Why or why not?

What are some tangible areas right now where you struggle to love Jesus' Lordship? Are you grumbling over trials you are going through? Are you angry about past events he has allowed you to experience? Are you unhappy about what he is commanding you to or not to do?

Can you see from Jesus' love expressed in becoming a man and dying on the cross that you have every reason to trust his Lordship? Why or why not?

What can we do at those times when we see our hearts rebelling against Jesus' Lordship? What have you found it beneficial? Helpful? Share your stories with each other.

Pray for each other, focusing on those areas where you struggle to love Jesus' Lordship.

Then take some time to worship and acknowledge and love Jesus' Lordship together.

