



SERIES: Philippians (May / June) “Finding Joy in the Journey”

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Monday, May 24, 2021

Scripture: Philippians 2:9-11

TITLE: The Truth Of Lordship

Who is it you respect most? Who is that person that if they asked you for something, you’d do your best to get it, or do it? Who is that person you’d love to work with, or work for? We all have those people who inspire, impress and command our respect. But when I think about how I “ooh” and “aah” over athletes, celebrities, and even preachers, I get a real sense of conviction. Because there is really only one person who deserves that kind of loyalty and adoration.

Let’s listen to Paul as he continues teaching us in Philippians Chapter 2:

“Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”(Phil. 2:9-11, NLT)

Friend, whenever you see the word “therefore,” you need to ask, “What is it there for?” It’s connecting Paul’s last thought. Jesus has emptied Himself to become an obedient slave, even to the point of dying on the cross. “Therefore”. Therefore, what? “God elevated Him to the highest honor and gave Him the title above all other names”: *Lord*. Lord isn’t like a duke or a prince - it’s just a sign of respect. No, this is the declaration that Jesus Christ is God. He is a Master. He is the One in charge.

It’s fascinated me for years that there’s this debate about the Lordship of Christ. There are some who say you can take Jesus as Savior, but not Lord. I just cannot find that concept in the Bible. I do find that Salvation is a free gift. But once you receive that free gift, Jesus Christ becomes recognized as Savior and Lord.

I can’t imagine getting hired on in a job, and then telling my boss I’m not going to follow His direction. I can’t imagine getting married, and then immediately tell my wife I didn’t mean those vows - it’s all about me. I can’t imagine joining a football team, and telling the coach I’ll call the plays. I can’t, because I know I wouldn’t be married for long. I wouldn’t be employed. And I would be kicked off the team.

When we become saved, Jesus by His very nature is Lord. The question is, will we live out that reality? In the end, everyone, both alive and resurrected, will recognize His Lordship, even if they are not saved.

So here’s my challenge for you today: ask yourself, where is it you’ve been rejecting the Lordship of Christ? We all have areas we want to play god. I have plenty of them. And I need to

repent and give Jesus control again. So search your heart, repent, and then give Jesus control again.

The Lordship of Christ frees us to a life of fulfillment and protection. So let's let Him have control, and then we will win the day.