

THE CORONATION OF THE KING (Phil. 2:9-11)

I'm sure many of you were watching the coronation yesterday. It was spectacularly auspicious in every way. It's amazing how all the numbers involved played their part so well, and how it all fitted together. It is indeed a credit to our nation how well it can produce such an event.

We are turning our attention to an even greater coronation, the proceedings of which began when the King of kings left His Heavenly palace in Glory and entered a humble stable in Bethlehem. Apart from the announcement by the angels to the shepherds on the hillside, and the star which guided the men from the east, there was no pomp and ceremony, no fanfares, no splendour, no crowds of well-wishers along the streets. The journey our Lord Jesus made was an eternity in the planning, it was given to the prophets in the Old Testament to announce ... and yet, He came in a manner the people were not expecting.

They were awaiting someone altogether different, who would be a military leader to drive out the Roman invaders. They were expecting Him to come from an established family background. But ultimately the reality was, *Jn. 1:11* He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

Paul, a former influential Jewish cleric, describes the Saviour's **HUMILIATION**, *Phil. 2:6* Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ...

When Jesus came to this earth which He created, He did not lose any of His Godhood. Jesus is God. He is the second Person of the Trinity, co-equal, co-eternal, one in essence, nature, power, action, authority, and will. As God the Father is uncreated, and the Holy Spirit is uncreated, so also the Son is uncreated the Godhead is eternal without beginning. In coming into the world, He took on a role initiated within the Divine will by which He made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant ... he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

That was His **humiliation** in God's plan to save His people, *Jn. 3:16* For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. ... He was not defeated. He did not fail. The forces of evil did not overcome Him, but in God's will, *Is. 53:5* he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities:

the chastisement of our peace was upon him ... ⁶ ... and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. ... ⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

That is what the Lord Jesus did in entering this world. He did not arrive in a horse-drawn golden carriage, flanked by footmen and cavalry, lauded by the crowds, and welcomed into a cathedral. Instead, He was born in a manger, in Bethlehem, outside of Jerusalem, and from there, as a young boy, He was taken to Egypt. On returning to Israel, He settled with His family to live most of His earthly life in Nazareth, a village in the hills of Galilee, until He began His public ministry. He then travelled throughout the land preaching the Kingdom of God, until three-and-a-half years later He was crucified on a cross. ... **HIS HUMILIATION.**

The connecting word at the beginning of verse nine introduces what He did next for us, as it begins with a ‘wherefore’ ... It speaks about **HIS EXALTATION** ... And the question is, what is the ‘wherefore’ there for? ... ⁹ *Wherefore* ... here is the Divine purpose and plan ... Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. This is the Father’s response to His Son’s *humiliation!* Jesus laid aside His glory, - not His Godhood, but His Heavenly glory, - and He made himself of no reputation ... ⁸ And ... he humbled himself ... coming into this world to die as a sinner on the cross, in the sinner’s place ... and *Wherefore*, - because of His obedience to the Father’s will, - God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.

In the original language, ‘highly exalted’ translates one Greek word (ὑπερυψώω). However, while it is one Greek word, it is actually two Greek words joined together. The first Greek word is ‘hyper’, which means ‘above’, ‘over’, ‘beyond’, ‘more than’, - *hyper* ... and the second Greek word means ‘lifted up on high’, ‘exalted’, ‘elevated’. ... Put them together it describes our Saviour as being lifted up higher than any other. There is none His equal. “His name is higher than any other, His name is Jesus, His name is Lord” ... His Father has exalted Him, of Whom He said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Mt. 3:17). ... **His Exaltation.** ... And ...

HIS ADORATION ... ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. ... The Father has exalted His Son to be worshipped by His creation. While the name of Jesus is mocked and ridiculed in many places today, - as it was when He was on earth,

- God decreed in the Old Testament what will *eventually* happen, He promised, **Is. 45:23** I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. ... That is a guarantee God has committed Himself to in His Word! He has promised it, and Paul has repeated it to the believers in Philippi. ... And since God promises it, the writer to the Hebrews wrote confidently, **Heb. 10:23** Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised) ... What God says, He always does, and *will* do, for the glory of His name's sake!

You can depend on it ... and when He says in His Word that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth ... every knee *shall* bow for such is how the Father hath highly exalted *III* His *Son*, and given him a name which is above every name. ... The angels in Heaven will bow ... There will be no protests, or people waving banners for 'every knee' will bow, **Ps. 97:6** The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. ... ⁹ For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted *ascended* far above all gods. ... The day is coming when all of creation will acknowledge His glory.

... From **His Humiliation to His Exaltation to His Adoration ... to HIS GLORIFICATION** ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ... What a special name! ... The hymn says, "The name of Jesus is so sweet". There is more to it though for the name 'Jesus' was a regular and an ordinary name for Jewish boys. ... The name 'Joshua' is its equivalent in the Old Testament. In Aramaic, it was Yeshua. ... Paul was confronted by a false prophet called Bar-Jesus. ... Jesus was a popular name, and it was the name God sent His angel-messenger to tell Joseph, **Mt. 1:21** [*Mary*] shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. ... That is what His name meant.

However, in Phil. 2:10 Paul is saying something more ... that if we would read too quickly, we might miss. In v.10, Paul writes, at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth ... And in v.11, every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. ... Who is this *Jesus*? ... This *Jesus* is no less than Jesus Christ the Lord ... Who died for us on the cross in fulfilment of God's plan for our salvation ... Who rose from the dead. ... He is "God from true God, and Light from Light Eternal, Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb, very God, begotten, not created" ... Jesus Christ the Lord, fully man and fully God. ... "Who is He in yonder stall, at Whose feet the

shepherds fall ... Tis the Lord, O wondrous story! Tis the Lord, the King of Glory” ... And it is at His name every knee will bow and every tongue confess!

That *is* a coronation not to be missed! All of God’s creation will make praise to the glory of God, His Father. Westminster Abbey will be nothing in comparison! All the dignitaries on earth, - the Kings and Queens and Presidents and Prime Ministers, - will all fall down before ... and His will, will be the only authority! ... Even those who do not in this life acknowledge, *will* acknowledge His glory on that day. And you can hear His Redeemed singing, “His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord”. The psalmist sang, ^{Ps. 148:1} Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights. ² Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts. ³ Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light. ⁴ Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens. ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created ... ¹¹ Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth: ¹² Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children: ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven

His Humiliation, He made himself of no reputation, ... **His Exaltation**, Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, ... **His Adoration**, at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ... **His Glorification**, every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ... Jesus Christ is Lord. ... He is *the* King of kings, and He is the *Lord* of lords.

O the children of the Lord have a right to shout and sing,
 For the way is growing bright, and our souls are on the wing;
 We are going by and by to the palace of the King,
 Glory to God, Hallelujah!