

JESUS IS LORD

Philippians 2:8-11

Introduction: Discuss the fact that Americans have never bowed to nor bent the knee to nor fallen face down before any man or woman. Our leaders have always been elected and could always be called by their first names as well as their last. They have always been considered on OUR level. Americans do not know the idea behind bowing the knee or calling anybody LORD.

1. Read the Text: *Phil. 2:8-11*
2. Discuss the word "Lord." O.T. name is Adonai - meaning "master" - indicating a claim on man's service.
 - Kurios is the N.T. equivalent.
 - *Malachi 1:6*
3. Discuss the name "Jesus." O.T. equivalent is "Joshua." - A common name among Jewish people. Why is this name "Jesus" distinctive? (God's Son, God in the flesh)
4. Discuss why Jesus is called Lord. (Reread *Phil. 2:8-11*)
 - The cross was the cruelest form of capital punishment by Rome and it was reserved for slaves and foreigners. **The Lord Jesus was crucified as a SLAVE!**
 - Note that it was God Almighty who declared this particular "Jesus" to be exalted, bowed to and called "Lord."
5. Discuss what it means to call "Jesus" "Lord" and what we are acknowledging when we say "Jesus is Lord."
 - *Matthew 28:18*: We acknowledge that all authority any/everywhere has been given to Him.
 - *Acts 2:33-36*: We acknowledge that it was God Almighty who made Jesus Lord - over all.
 - *Eph. 1:18-23*: We acknowledge that Jesus is far above ALL things.
 - *Heb. 1:4*: We acknowledge that Jesus is far above the angels - His Name more excellent than ANY name in heaven or anywhere (including angels).
6. Discuss Jesus is Lord whether one acknowledges the truth or not.
7. Discuss the purpose for which Jesus has been exalted. (*Text*)
 - It brings glory and honor to God, the Father.
 - It causes all beings to bow in acknowledgement of the name that belongs to Jesus (Lord),
 - It causes all beings to confess (discuss confess) that Jesus Christ is Lord.
 - It means that every knee shall bow before Him in recognition of His Lordship and WHO He is.
(Some will refuse to bow gladly but will do so under compulsion, forced to concede His power and rule.)
8. Read *Isaiah 45:23-24* then *Romans 14:11-12*.
 - Isaiah contrasts the Living God with lifeless idols, stating that God is unique and is the only One who creates, redeems and sustains. The Lord God is supreme. There is no other God.

- Discuss that the Lord God Almighty, the Supreme One is quite able to confer on Jesus, the Son of God, the title of Lord, and all the honor that goes with the title.
- Discuss that we are reminded by Paul that every person will stand before this Lord Jesus and give an account of him/herself to Him.

9. Discuss how submission to the Lordship of Jesus be expressed one day: (Define "bowing": the attitude of paying homage (respect, reverence, service, duty, honor, worship) to one's god in recognition of its inherent authority.

- At the very mention of the name of "Jesus" every knee anywhere/everywhere will bow.
- At the very mention of the name of "Jesus" every tongue will confess (agree) that this "Jesus" IS Lord.
- All submission to the Lordship of Jesus will bring glory and honor to God the Father who gave the command.

10. How do you express submission to the Lordship of Jesus? What do you need to begin to do?