

The Exaltation of the King

(Phil. 3:20, 21)

Introduction: If you have children who are close in age, you have likely heard some variance of this exchange. One sibling gives the other a correction or task to do...probably one originally instituted by mom and dad. So how does the sibling likely respond, even if – maybe even especially if – he knows the other is right? “*You’re not the boss of me!*” It starts young, doesn’t it... this fight for independence from authority.

As Christians, though, we were never meant to live under our own rule. We have a King. His name is Jesus; and He is a much better Ruler than we could ever be. The kingship of Jesus is highlighted in our text this morning Read Phil. 3:20,21). Even as believers we sometimes fail to bow to Jesus as our King. How often do we refer to Jesus as our Savior but not our King? Acknowledging His kingship means admitting that He is in control of our lives. It means submitting to His authority and rule, rather than childishly insisting, “*You’re not the boss of me!*” When we bow to Jesus as our King, we actually end up receiving the one thing we have been so afraid of losing – freedom. “*If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed*” (Jn. 8:36).

This is the emphasis of Easter – That Jesus, is alive and the exalted King over all the universe and especially over the hearts and lives of His own! (2 Thes. 1:10) I pray today that when we leave here this Easter Sunday, we will do so as *the people of God marveling at the majesty of Jesus Christ*. And exalting Him as the personal King of our lives! Notice four reasons we have for doing this...

I. We should exalt Jesus as our King because He is alive: (v. 20) (How can this be?) (Phil. 2:6-11)

A. The eternal deity of Christ –

B. The incarnation of Christ –

C. The obedient death of Christ – (Gal. 3:13; (Phil. 2:8

D. The resurrection of Christ – (Phil. 2:9; 3:20-21)

E. The reign of Christ over all the universe -

II. We should exalt Jesus as our King because He has power: (Phil. 2: 1-5)

A. Jesus has the right to power – (v. 21) Rev. 6:16; Heb2:10 (Rev 6:16).

B. Jesus has the right power – (Mt. 28:18; Phil. 2:10)

C. Jesus has the right to use His power – (Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; 1 Pe. 3:22; Mt. 16:18; Rom. 11:33) (1 Cor. 15:24-27’ Ac. 1:7, 8)

III. We should exalt Jesus as our King because He can transform our lives: (v21)

A. Today He transforms our hearts, minds and lives...

1. He makes us new...(2 Cor. 5:17)

2. He changes our minds (Rom. 12:1, 2)

3. He changes our hearts (Ezk. 36:26, 27)

4. He changes our lives (Gal.5:16, 22-25)

5. He does all this to make us into the image of Christ here and now (Rom. 8:28, 29) But, on top of this...

B. One day He will literally transform our bodies – (1 cor. 15:44) (Lk. 24:39-43) (Mt. 26:29)

IV. We should exalt Jesus as our King because He makes our citizenship in heaven: (vv20,21)

A. Our excitement is not that our home is there (Phil. 3:20)

B. Our excitement is that He is there –

Conclusion: It is an all too common for us to want to rebel and not have anyone be the boss of us; tell us what do, how to do or when to do it! (This is especially true spiritually) But, as Christians, we were never meant to live under our own rule. We have a King. His name is Jesus; and He is a much better Ruler than we could ever be.

Are you sure your citizenship is in heaven today?

Have you laid down the arms of unbelief and rebellion against Christ?

Have you received the blood-bought forgiveness Jesus offers to all rebels?

Have you bowed the knee of submission and loyalty to the King of the universe? (This is the message of Easter – our King is alive!!)

If you haven’t already exalted Him to be your personal King, - Do it today! And join the citizens of heaven in “*awaiting our Savior, and King, the Lord Jesus Christ!*”