PHILIPPIANS

Rejoice In The Lord!

The Real Jesus—Part 4

Lesson Eighteen



Rejoice In The Lord!

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Lesson Goal: To encourage students to understand who Jesus really is and what it

means to have the mind of Christ.

Scriptures: Philippians 2:9

For Memory: "Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the

name that is above every name." Philippians 2:9

The Real Jesus—Part 4

Today we are in the fourth lesson on who the real Jesus is. Every Christian must know everything they can know about Jesus. We are not going to be able to study all of that in these lessons, but we are looking at some of the most important things about Jesus.

In our study we have found that Jesus is just like God, He volunteered to come to earth, He made room in Himself to be human, and in His new human nature He was a servant, the fact that He came to earth and became human was very costly to Him, and part of that cost was His death on the cross for our sins.

To be sure we understand it, let's look at why Jesus had to die. The Bible says in Romans 6:23 that, "The wages of sin is death." That means that everyone who has ever sinned must die...sin kills. And since all of us have sinned, we are all sentenced to death. (Romans 3:23) The death that the Bible is talking about here is really what happens when we physically die at the end of our life. That is really not the end. We are created to live forever, our death here on earth is just a change from living here to living somewhere else. But, that is not the end of that Bible verse. It goes on to say, "but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jesus, because He came to earth to die, made it possible for us to live in a very special place after we die. It is called Heaven and when we go there, we have life like nothing we have ever imagined here on earth. God is there and Jesus is there! Our sins can no longer kill us. We just ask God to forgive us of our sins because His Son, Jesus, paid for (the wages of) our sins when He died on the cross. (Refer to "How to begin a Personal Relationship with God" on the Student Worksheet of this lesson.)

Because Jesus did what He came to earth to do, God "exalted" Him. God brought Jesus to sit at His right hand in Heaven. (Hebrews 1:3; 12:3) In Matthew 23:12, Jesus said, "...whoever humbles himself shall be exalted." Now, exalting (raising up) Jesus was not a payment for what Jesus did on earth. He was God before He came, God while He was here, and God after He ascended into Heaven. Here it means that the Father honored the Son for His accomplishments like the athlete is given a trophy for completing the race. The trophy is not a payment for the hard work of the runner, it is a recognition of a great accomplishment. There might have been a victory party



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in Heaven, angels cheering, the Father standing...maybe even a victory feast when Jesus came back from earth. And after the party, God said, "Come over here Son, and sit down at my right hand for all eternity." From that place, Jesus speaks to the Father on our behalf.

The other thing that our memory verse says is that God "gave Him a name that is above every name." There is a long-standing practice in the Bible of giving new names.

Abram was renamed Abraham. Jacob became Israel. Simon became Peter. It happened when each of these entered into a new role or responsibility in life. When Jesus got back home, God gave Him a new name.

We don't know what that name was, but many think that it may have been *Kurios* (Koor'-E-ahs). That is the word for Lord in Greek. It is a word that means master or owner. It became the official title for Roman emperors. It was used preceding the name of the gods of the Greeks and the Romans in that day. So, when Paul said that the name Jesus was given was above every name, it meant that to the Christians, Jesus was above not only all the other gods, but above even the Roman Emperor. We will continue to consider this name in our next two lessons.

*Underlined statements in this Teacher's Guide appear in the Student Worksheet with blanks to be filled in by the student during the lesson. Words in the Student Worksheet may not appear exactly as printed in the Teacher's Guide.



- 1. In the verses we are studying, 5-11, and in the first chapter of the Gospel of John, you will find the most important verses in the establishment of the Christian doctrine of Jesus Christ.
- 2. It would be good to read and study the first five verses of John 17, Jesus' prayer for Himself, for His disciples and for us. "Glory" there refers to His "exalted" state.
- 3. Songs that emphasize Jesus as God, humility, Jesus dying for us, Jesus as risen from the dead, and the name of Jesus would be appropriate.
- 4. Pray with your students asking God to help us understand what it might be like to know that God is proud of us, like He was proud of Jesus.
- 5. Jesus is the perfect example. He did what He came to do. He lived up to God's expectations.
- 6. The exaltation of Jesus is a lot like soldiers who have won a battle coming home to a victory parade and hearing the commander say, "Well done."
- 7. See Revelation 2:17 and 3:12—"a new name"



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Student Worksheet

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How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that there is a God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relation-ship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.

Fifth, believe that He has answered your prayer and be determined to live for him all the rest of your life.