The Upside Down Kingdom: The Humble will be Exalted

Wylie Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 2, 2025

Philippians 2:1-11

1 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, II and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

In God's upside down kingdom...

1. THE HUMBLE PLEASE GOD

<u> 1 Peter 5:5</u>

... All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

In God's upside down kingdom...

2. JESUS EXEMPLIFIES HUMILTY

Philippians 2:6-8

6 [Jesus], being in very nature God, did not consider <u>equality</u> with God something to be grasped, 7 but <u>made himself nothing</u>, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, <u>he humbled himself</u> and <u>became obedient to death</u> — even death on a cross!

In God's upside down kingdom...

3. WE ARE CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRISTS EXAMPLE

Philippians 2:5,3,2

- 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
- 3 <u>Do nothing</u> out of <u>selfish ambition</u> or <u>vain conceit</u>, but <u>in humility consider others better</u> than yourselves.
- 2 ... being like-minded [with Christ], having the <u>same love</u>, being <u>one in spirit and purpose</u>.

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4. HUMILITY RESULTS IN EXALTATION

Philippians 2:9

<u>THEREFORE</u> God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

Luke 18:9-14

9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: 10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men — robbers, evildoers, adulterers — or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' 13 "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' 14 "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."