January 13, 2008 The Bridge Bible Fellowship Pastor Paul S. Brown Phil. 2:9-11

"The Heavenly Mindset – Maintaining Unity In The Body" Part Five "Whatever Happened To Heaven? Part Two"

- I. CONDITIONS FOR UNITY [DOCTRINE] v. 1 Why?
- II. COMMITMENTS FOR UNITY [DUTY] v. 2 What?
- III. CONTRASTS FOR UNITY [DO'S AND DON'TS] v. 3-4 How?

IV. COMMAND FOR UNITY [DEITY'S EXAMPLE] v. 5-8 - Who?

- V. CULMINATION OF UNITY [DESTINATION] v. 9-11 Where?
 - A. **THE PRINCIPLE** v. 9 Jesus was a humble servant and God highly exalted Him. Keep that ATTITUDE in yourselves! Remember that there is a special level of exaltation that is eternally reserved for Jesus = SUPER-EXALTATION.
 - B. THE _______ v. 10-11 (Why Jesus was super-exalted after His humiliation)
 - 1. UNIVERSAL ______ (v. 10) _____

"IN HEAVEN" (Eph. 1:21; 3:10; 1 Pet. 3:22; Rev. 4:8-11; 5:8-12)

"ON EARTH"

"UNDER THE EARTH"

2. UNIVERSAL ______ (v. 11) - _____

"every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Acts 2:36; Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 11:23; 12:3; 16:22; cf. Is. 45:18-25; Rom. 14:11; Jer. 23:6; Ps. 110:1; Lk. 2:11; John 13:13; Acts 10:36; 1 Cor. 8:6; 2 Cor. 4:5; Rev. 17:14; 19:16)

FOOTNOTE: all this happened & will happen in fulfillment of prophecy (Gen. 3:15; 2 Sam. 7:13; Ps. 2:7-9; 8; 47:5; 68:17-19; 72; 110:1; 118:22f; Is. 9:6f; 53:10-12; Micah 5:2; Zech. 9:9f; cf. Lk. 24:26; Rev. 1:7)

JESUS has experienced the reversal of his humiliation!

- King = ruling the universe
- Prophet = leading His people into all truth
- Priest = interceding on our behalf
- Worship must lead to_____! Same word used for both in NT and OT. Worship (Phil. 3:3; Heb. 10:2); serve (Mt. 4:10; Lk. 1:74; 4:8; Acts 7:7; 24:14; 26:7; 27:23; Rom. 1:8; 2 Tim. 1:3; Heb. 9:14; 12:28; Rev. 7:15)

3. ULTIMATE _____ TO THE FATHER (v. 11)

Jesus carried out the Father's will & brought Him glory. When God glorifies Jesus, Jesus glorifies the Father (John 17:1, 4f).

- Our unity will ultimately bring glory to God (John 17:22-24)
- Our salvation was ultimately to bring God glory (Eph. 1:5f, 12-14)
- When Jesus is glorified, the Father is glorified (Jn. 5:23; 13:31f)
- When Jesus is rejected, the Father is rejected
- When we are humble, selfless servants united in Kingdom work God and Jesus are glorified! (1 Pet. 4:10f)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What changes have you seen in your life this past week as a result of meditating upon heaven? Be specific (thoughts, attitudes, words, actions).
- 2. What specific things could you do differently this week to purposefully humble yourself:
 - a. At home
 - b. At work
 - c. At school
 - d. At church
 - e. In your neighborhood
- 3. Read Revelation 4-5. How do the inhabitants of heaven relate to Jesus in those chapters? How do they perceive His lordship?
- 4. Do people on earth relate to Jesus the same way the inhabitants of heaven do? If not, why not? Do we? How could we be more like the inhabitants of heaven in our worship of Jesus? What keeps us from doing it all the time?
- 5. Read Eph. 3:8-10 and 1 Peter 1:10-12. Just as we learn about worship from the inhabitants of heaven, what should they be learning from us?
- 6. What does it mean to "confess" that Jesus Christ is Lord? Read Luke 6:46-49 & Mt. 7:21-23. Is it enough to simply "say" that Jesus is Lord? What does "Lord" mean? In what sense is Jesus "Lord" of our lives?
- 7. To what does genuine worship always lead? Is this obvious in your life right now? Where are you doing this in this church?
- 8. What does it mean to "glorify God"? How did Jesus do that in His earthly ministry? How does He do it now? In what practical ways can we follow His example?
- 9. How can the application of these truths enable us to be unified as a church family?
- 10. Jesus is coming back for us sometime soon to take us to be with Him. What impact should meditating upon that truth have in our lives right now?
 - a. 1 Cor. 15:50-58
 - b. Phil. 3:20-4:1
 - c. 1 Thess. 4:13-18
 - d. 1 Thess. 5:1-11
 - e. 2 Tim. 4:6-8
 - f. 2 Pet. 3:10-18
 - g. 1 John 3:1-3