



Season 8 Podcasts

The 'Glory and Honor' of the Gospel

By

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So far in my 8th Season Podcast series I've shared thoughts with you about:

- 8 Rules for Bible Study
- 40 Rules for Ministry
- The Heart of the Gospel
- Defending and Confirming the Gospel
- Your Fellowship in the Gospel
- The Completion of the Gospel
- The Affection of the Gospel
- The Discernment of the Gospel
- The Excellence of the Gospel
- The Sincerity of the Gospel
- The Fruit of the Gospel
- The Advancement of the Gospel
- The Preaching of the Gospel
- Living for the Gospel
- Conduct Worthy of the Gospel

- Suffering for the Gospel
- The Joy of the Gospel
- The Humility of the Gospel
- The Sacrificial Mind of the Gospel
- The Gospel's Name Above Every Name

The next aspect I'd like to share with you is the 'Glory and Honor' of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I'd like to take a few minutes to expand a bit on the last podcast:

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:9-11

I shared about the ‘Name Above Every Name.’ Now I'd like to look at what that means in Heaven. Jesus Christ told His disciples after the Resurrection that He has ‘All Authority in Heaven and Earth’ (Matthew 28:18). What that means in Heaven is that Jesus Christ receives all Praise, Glory, and ‘Honor.’

“Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ‘You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.’” Revelation 4:9-11

Heaven is quite different in appearance than what we see on Earth. In Revelation chapter 4 we read that the Apostle John heard a ‘voice’ that ‘was like a trumpet’ speaking to him, saying: ‘Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.’ John said he was ‘immediately in the Spirit’ and saw ‘a throne set’ in Heaven. The ‘One’ who sat on the throne –

“was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne proceeded lightnings thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!’ Revelation 4:3-8

We've already read verses 9-11 where the creatures give Jesus Christ 'glory and honor and thanks,' and there the 24 elders fall down before Him to worship Jesus and cast their crowns before His Throne. They constantly acknowledge that Jesus is worthy, 'To receive glory and honor and power.' Much of what John continued to witness in Heaven came from that foundational idea that Jesus is worthy to receive glory and honor and power.

So, why isn't that what we see on Earth? Good question. One answer is that we will see that on Earth one day. That's what Paul wrote the Philippians in chapter two: "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." That day cannot come soon enough for me, and I hope for you as well.

Think about Paul's extraordinary truth claim for a moment: At the Name of Jesus 'every knee should bow.' That includes every knee in Heaven, every knee on Earth, and every knee under the Earth. Every 'tongue' (*glóssa* – language) 'should confess' (*exomologeó* – acknowledge, profess, promise, confess) that 'Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.'

The reason I wanted to take a few extra minutes with you from Philippians 2:9-11 is to encourage you as you face the realities of this life. No matter how difficult or bleak things may appear to us now, the day is coming when every living being in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth will acknowledge who Jesus is, to the glory of God the Father. Those beings may willingly bend their knee because they understand the glory (*doxa* – dignity, praise), honor (*timé* – value), and power (*dunamis* – force, strength) of Jesus' Name.

I'll share more about the 'power' of the Gospel in the next podcast.

Play Podcast

In Christ's Love and Grace,

Mark McGee

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