

Our Response to His Coming

Philippians 2:5-11 (NKJV)

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

10 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,

11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Death means separation;

When Christ died what did He separate from?

- Separated from the World i.e. the first creation.
 - It was His, He created it yet He allowed His created creatures, man, to kill Him and remove Him from His own creation
- Separated from sin as a principle and its penalty which was in the First creation.
- His death was the beginning of the end for the entire first creation and everything in it.
- The physical end will not be completed until after the Millennium but its annihilation began at the cross.
- When the Creator is removed from His creation, there is no meaning for it any longer.
- In summary we could say that Jesus, the Son, came to die but He also came to be raised out of a now passing away creation to a brand new creation.

What should our response be to His coming?

The response in **John 1:14 (NKJV)**” ¹⁴ *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and **we beheld His glory**, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*”

The response was that they beheld His glory.

As we progress this morning it will become clear what our response is now.

THE OLD CREATION --

- The first (now old) creation was made by the Lord Jesus, with the first Adam as its head.

Colossians 1:16 (NKJV)

16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

- When Adam sinned the entire race died in him, as did all creation.

1 Corinthians 15:22 (NKJV)

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

- The resultant judgment and condemnation were judicially accomplished on the Cross in the death of Christ unto sin.

Romans 8:3 (NKJV) ³

God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

Calvary judicially ended Adam and all of his creation.

2 Peter 3:10 (NKJV)

*¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; **both the earth and the works** that are in it will be burned up.*

*2 Peter 3:13 (NKJV) ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, **look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.***

Each believer's relationship to the fallen Adam race was terminated at the Cross.

Romans 6:6-5 (NKJV) ⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

New Creation:

When the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead and ascended to the right hand of the Father on high, there was a completely new beginning.

- After the total termination of the first creation on the Cross,
- The Last Adam, The Lord Jesus, was free to rise as the Head and life of the spiritual, eternal, all-new creation.
- And as such He stepped forth on resurrection ground **bearing in His heart every single believer whom by death He has separated from the first Adam.**
- Whereas the first creation began with the heavens and the earth, followed by the creation of the earthly man,
- The "new creation" began with the heavenly Man, to be followed by the new heavens and the new earth.

Revelation 3:14 (NKJV)

*¹⁴ "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, **the Beginning of the creation of God:***

Another reason for coming is to take us with Him.

Not in the future when He comes again, but right now.

Remember:

- Not only did He take us to the cross with Him
- He also placed us in His burial, resurrection and ascension
- Positionally we are seated with Christ in the heavenlies right now.

What should our response be to these additional facts?

- The same as when He came the first Christmas.

And dwelt among men and we beheld His glory.

- We are to behold Him and His glory. Now

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

**He came so that He could take us with Him to behold His
glory**

John 17:20-26 (NKJV)

20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

*21 **that they all may be one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

*22 **And the glory which You gave Me I have given them**, that they may be one just as We are one:*

23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

*24 Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me **may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me**; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*

25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You, and these have known that You sent Me.

26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

"All Things Are Become New"

- In dying and rising again He *begot us, recreated us*, as His "first- fruits."

- No recycling, no reclamation, no restoration, no reformation - no first Adam at all.

- Now Paul says to each believer, risen in Christ,

Col. 3:9-11 "seeing that ye have put off (in death) the old man (Adam) ... and have put on the new man, that is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him; where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free, but Christ is all, and in all".

As believers we are *"renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him,"***not** in the image of *him that was created*.

Since we were cut off from Adam in the death of the Cross, and re-created in the Lord Jesus in the resurrection, Paul says that we are to reckon upon these facts and by faith

Gal. 6:15. "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision avails anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation."

Eph. 2:10 "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus"

Home Free!

Now the Father has every believer whom He chose in eternity past, every single one whom He then promised to His Son, safely and eternally in His risen Son.

John 6:39 (NKJV) ³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

His prayer to His Father in the Garden He said, (John 17:2, 6, 24) *"Father, I will that they also, whom thou have given me, **be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory**, which You have given me; for You loved me before the foundation of the world".*

It was all settled, and had been settled since eternity past.

It was there we were Eph. 1:4, 5 *"chosen ...in him,"* the Father *"having predestinated us unto the adoption of sons by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will"*

The Lord Jesus had to die in order to bring us to Himself, in order to fulfill the eternal calling of the Father who *"had chosen us in Him."*

*James 1:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of **first fruits of His(new) creation.***