

The Apostles' Creed: Second Article

[I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

The Savior in the State of Exaltation

Two weeks ago, we read this passage of Scripture from Philippians (Read **Philippians 2:5—11**). I told you then that this was sometimes called “The Hymn of the Humiliation and Exaltation of Jesus Christ.” We said that the state of humiliation was when Christ’s humanity overshadowed His divinity, and He didn’t access His divine powers. This was the time between His incarnation and His death. Today, we want to talk about His State of Exaltation.

This is the time since His death to all eternity. His divinity overshadows His humanity, and He has full access to His divine powers. Paul says that *Jesus emptied Himself (v. 7)* of His divine powers and rights. He humbled Himself. Then he says *therefore God has highly exalted Him (v. 9)*. God the Father exalted, or lifted up, Jesus because Jesus humbled Himself and died on the cross.

Jesus says, *“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted” (Matthew 23:12)*. Jesus was exalted because He humbled Himself. Let us just take a minute to praise Jesus for who He is.

Prayer:

Lord, You were exalted by the Father because You humbled Yourself to save us by Your death. We bow before You today and confess that You are Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:11).