Jesus Name above all Names A sermon in song

Call to worship: Phil. 2:5-11 Opening prayer:

Intro: Our call to worship reminds us of the one whose name we wear and that we follow—Jesus. And it also reminds us of His exalted position over everything. God has exalted him with <u>a name that is above all names</u>. This is theme of our worship today as we join together in a service of song and Scripture. (Mark will be leading us and I will be reading the Scriptures and commenting upon them. Follow along with the projector screen or by using page two of our bulletin.)

Let's begin with our theme: (Sing as medley) Jesus, Name Above All Names #221 There's something about that name #222 Blessed Be The Name #224 (v. 2,3)

Since the Scriptures affirm that Jesus' name is above all, we should explore what makes His name so great. And the answer is found in the exalted role He occupies in the plan of God. Jesus' name is above all names because He is:

The Word who created all things

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being." (John 1:1–3)

Listen to the words of this song as it reminds us of Jesus' role as ruler over all creation, reminding us of Jesus' role as "ruler of all nature" and how His nature and glory supersede the creation He made.

Fairest Lord Jesus # 288 (v. 1,2,3)

Because Jesus possesses the divine nature He can truly be called 'the Son of God," not merely like Adam and the rest of us who were created by God, but because he is unique in His relationship to God as His only begotten.

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

Jesus' name is above all names because He is:

The Son of God

We just spoke of Him in our last song as "thou of <u>God</u> and <u>man</u> the Son." John in His gospel gives a description of the many signs that Jesus performed and then concluded:

"Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that

you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:30–31)

"Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession." (Hebrews 4:14) We see His exalted nature in the Revelation he gave to John; and we hear

echoes of those scenes in the song "Worthy Art Thou."

Worthy Art Thou #230 (v. 1,2)

But in addition Jesus' name is above all names because He is:

The Christ of OT Scripture

When we say Jesus Christ, we are not saying that Christ is Jesus' last name like Johnny Felker or Mark Claypool. Instead we are saying something about His role-- more like Johnny the preacher or Mark the song-leader.

The word "Christ" is an anglicized rendering of the Greek word "Christos" which means "an anointed one." That word in turn is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word "Meshiach" which also means "an anointed one." The term was primarily reserved for those who God chose to be <u>king</u> over Israel. And thus the prophets looked forward to the time when Israel's true and righteous king would appear.

The apostle Peter confessed that Jesus was that long-anticipated Christ of OT prophecy:

And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the <u>Christ</u>, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16)

And Jesus acknowledged that he had spoken the truth about him.

Later Peter would declare this truth to the people of Israel on the day of the Pentecost:

Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified. (Acts 2:36)

To say that Jesus is Christ is to declare that He is not only the king of Israel, but the king of all kings.

All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name #162 (v. 1,2)

The Savior of the world

When Jesus appeared this world he came as the Son of God not only to rule as king over God's people, but to save them from their sins. Jesus' Hebrew name "Yeshua" or "Yehoshua" comes from the verb "yasha" which means "He saves." Every time we use the name "Jesus" we are expressing the idea that He is Savior of all. For that is what the name Jesus means—Savior. *And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)*

Consequently Paul points out how God:

"... has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our <u>Savior</u> Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel," (2 Timothy 1:9–10)

A Wonderful Savior #508 (v. 1,2)

The Lamb of God

Jesus became our Savior at a great price to Himself. He would offer up His own life as a sacrifice for our sins.

THEREFORE be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Think that great love as we sing this next song.

I Stand Amazed #147 (v.1,2,3)

Think about the terms "offering" and "sacrifice." They tell us that Jesus fulfills the statement of John, "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

Lamb of God #176 (v. 1,2,3)

Lord's Supper

After Lord's Supper

We come back now to the text with which we started. The one who was with God came to earth and suffered death on the cross. *Therefore God has highly exalted Him and given him a name above every name*. Consequently He is:

The Lord of all

For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords, yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him." (1 Corinthians 8:5–6)

Jesus Is Lord #180 (v. 1,3)

As the Lord Jesus not only rules over everyone and everything, he does so with a loving care and concern for His people. His name is above all names because He is:

The Good Shepherd

"Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20–21)

The Lord My Shepherd Is #126 (v. 1,2,3)

Because of what Jesus has done there is hope for us. Jesus reminded the Christians who were suffering so much for their faith in Him that no matter how dark things got, they could look to him for hope. His name is above all names because He is:

The Bright and Morning Star

I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star. (Revelation 22:16)

Such a picture of Jesus reminds us that no matter how dreary things may appear He is there. And just as the morning star announces the dawn of a new day, so Jesus' presence announces the day when God will make all things new.

I have found a friend in Jesus #548 (v. 1,3)

And so in this hope we live and invite others to join with us in following Jesus. We'd invite you to consider who He is and follow him today:

Invitation

Do You Know My Jesus #943 (v. 1,2,3)