



GracePoint: A Weekly Sermon Discussion
18 – Subjecting All Things

11/5 @6:30
Grace Group at
3513 Northpointe Dr

11/7 @6:00
Grace Group at
2070 Corley Dr

11/7 @6:30
Grace Group at
1710 Mariposa Dr

ICE BREAKER: If you were king for the day, what is one thing you would change (serious or funny)

REVIEW: Was there anything covered or said on Sunday that you had any questions or comments about?

READ: Philippians 3:17-21

Earlier in Philippians Paul said that “every knee shall bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord.” Which, among other things, is just an incredible testimony to the glory and power of Jesus. He is so incredible that Everyone will physically bow before him, and so worthy of praise that every tongue will sing of his goodness and majesty. In the passage we just read we have another such statement: He will raise us to new life “by the power that enables him to *subject all things to himself.*” (Philippians 3:21) To dive into the power of this statement I would like to wrestle with two questions: “what things?” and “what power?”

So first we will ask, what things are the subjects of Jesus? The answer: ALL things! It is not just every person who will bow, or every tongue that will confess, but also that all of creation that is under the authority of King Jesus. Anything you think of we can ask: is that this a thing? Well then it is part of ALL THINGS and is under his authority. But this gets even better when we begin to enumerate these things. We have seen in the above verse that every person will bow, but what about every *nation*? Well Revelation 19:15 says that when he comes he will come with a sword “with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of Iron.” so yes, every nation, and every collection of people into nations. But what about the earth itself? Well since all that is created owes its existence to him, it is safe to say that he rules over the earth too! (See John 1:2 or Romans 11:36). But all the “what abouts” find their beautiful fulfillment in asking “what about sin and death?” and yes, Jesus rules them as well. We could go a lot of places, but Romans 5 might be the best. Through a series of long arguments he finally proclaims “as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 5:21) In other words, the grace of Jesus has conquered sin and death, and those who are in Christ have eternal life! How incredible that Christ rules all things!

DISCUSS: What “things” in particular are we grateful are subject to Christ? How does this change your life?

But as we discuss “what things” we cannot forget that it is through his power that he subjects all things. So the natural next question is: what power is this that can do this? It is the power of God certainly. The power to forgive sins, true. But the power that Paul has in mind here is a particular power. (and, stop me if we have covered this over and over and over again the last few weeks, it is super important) The power of the resurrection! Paul is certainly looking both back and forward as he writes all of this. He is looking forward to the day that we will be resurrected (he will transform our lowly bodies), but he does so by looking back and remembering that Jesus has risen! There can be no doubt in the power and authority of Jesus, because he has proven that nothing can defeat him. There is no challenger to his throne because he rules all things -- and proved it by his resurrection. This then becomes the source of our hope. We can trust in him, and he will always deliver us. Praise be to Jesus!

DISCUSS: When you think of the power of Jesus, what do you think of? How can we remind ourselves of his power when things seem to be going on outside of it?