

Christ Is Risen

Introduction

1. A truth that all Christians must make ourselves familiar with is how Christ's resurrection is connected with His being King.
2. We will consider three important truths on this matter:
 - a. The fact that Christ is King,
 - b. How Christ is ruling as King today,
 - c. Christ's judgment as King.

Discussion

I. He Is Both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:27-36)

- A. Vs. 27-31: Christ's Kingship prophesied.
 1. vs. 27-30: David gave the prophesy of the resurrection of the Christ.
 2. Vs. 30-31: The prophecy of Christ's resurrection was given in the context of His becoming king.
- B. Vs. 32-35: This prophecy, and the promise given to David was fulfilled as the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 1. Jesus rose from the dead and was seated at the right hand of God.
 2. Right hand does not mean "less" than king, as some people claim today.
 3. Jer. 22:24: The king of God's people was described as a signet on God's right hand.
 4. Right hand was always a symbol of strength, power, and authority.
 5. Christ being at God's right hand is a description of His carrying the authority of God as king over God's people, just as it did the kings of old.
- C. Vs. 36: Peter's final conclusion?
 1. God made this Jesus both Lord and Christ.
 2. This is in fulfillment of O.T. Prophecy.
 3. Lord is used synonymous of master, king, ruler.
 4. Christ means messiah, savior.
 5. Jesus is both—and He became so at His resurrection.

II. Christ's Rule as King

- A. Began at His resurrection.
 1. Matt. 28:18: "*All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.*"
 2. "All authority" means all that there is. There is no more for Jesus to attain because He has it all.
 3. Does He only have that authority in heaven, or where?

4. He has all authority both in heaven and on earth—in every realm of existence, Jesus has all authority.
 5. If He is king there is no more authority to be given Him when He is King—but we know that He is King now.
- B. From the time of His resurrection, Christ has been reigning.
1. 1 Cor. 15:24-25: He must reign till He puts the last enemy under His footstool.
 2. If Christ is king, then why so much evil in the world?
 3. For now Christ's rule manifest through the church—He has authority over all, but the church is that which submits to His authority till the time His enemies are destroyed.
 - a. Col. 1:17-18: He is before all things, head of the church, has the preeminence.
 - b. Matt. 28:18-19: Because He has all authority, the church is commanded to disciple all nations, to preach to them about the king so that the world may turn to Him and repent.
 - c. Why? A time is appointed in which the King will judge the world because of those who do not respect His authority (Acts 17:30-31).
 - d. Therefore, the church is preaching Christ's authority so that others might be saved from that judgment.
- C. Matthew 13:24-30, 37-43: The wheat and the tares.
1. Jesus' rule is depicted in the parable of the wheat and the tares.
 2. The wicked are allowed to exist, even though Christ is currently King, because God is waiting so that none of the righteous are lost.
 3. He is giving the wicked time to repent.
 4. But in the judgment the two will be divided, those who turn to Christ as King will enter the kingdom, but those who do not will be burned.

III. Christ Will Judge as King.

- A. When the time comes to divide the wicked from the righteous, Christ will be the one to pass judgment, for He is King.
- B. Because Christ is King, we must be doing two things.
1. Examine ourselves – Are we living as if Christ is our King? 2 Cor. 13:5; Phil. 2:12.
 2. Spread the gospel that others might be saved.
 - a. This is the necessary conclusion of Matt. 28:18-19.
 - b. This is the proper use of God's patience: Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5.
- C. His words will be the standard of judgment.
1. John 12:48—His words will judge us in the last day.
 2. We will be judged according to the deeds done in the flesh; as to whether or not we obey the King.
 3. Therefore, how we serve Him now will determine whether we are sheep or goats at His coming (Matt. 25:31-36).

D. Then comes the end.

1. 1 Cor. 15:24: Christ will deliver His kingdom to the Father.
2. All of His enemies will be destroyed
3. Heb. 12:26-27: The things that are made will be shaken – removed.
4. 2 Pet. 3:9ff: the heavens will pass away, the elements will melt with fervent heat, all things will be laid bare.

Conclusion

1. The conclusion to be made is found in 2 Pet. 3:10-12.
2. Jesus is risen from the dead proving that, as part of the Godhead, He is:
 - a. Savior, Christ
 - b. High Priest
 - c. King: Lord
3. In light of His authority and His judgment, let us therefore learn “*what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God.*”
4. Have you made Christ your King?

December, 2006

Avondale church of Christ
1606 Glen Willow Rd., P.O. Box 421, Avondale, PA 19311
Phone: (610) 268-2088
Email: info@avondalechristians.com
Website: www.avondalechristians.com

©David Phillips, 2006