



‘What think you of Christ?’

*“The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet’. If then David calls him
Lord, how is he his son?” ” (Matt 22:44,45)*

Call to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation;
We will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD God is our strength and our song,
and he has become our salvation.

**Sing praises to the LORD,
for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.**

(Isa 12:2,5)

Let us pray.

**Sovereign Lord, our Heavenly Father,
it is our heart's desire, our deepest longing,
to know you, to love you, and to worship you.
It is our greatest pleasure,
our highest privilege, our chief delight,
to meet with you, the one true and living God,
and experience your grace and favour.
Grant us power by your Holy Spirit
to worship you now, in spirit and in truth.
Amen.**

Valley of Vision

Like Deer in Search of Floods (Psalm 42 & 43)

Like deer in search of floods,
so my soul longs for God;
I thirst for God, the Living God;
when shall I see?
My food has been my tears,
while throughout endless years
The hostile crowds around me say,
'Where is your God?'
These things I've always known
as I pour out my soul:
I've led the throng to worship God,
with shouts of praise.
*Why is my soul cast down?
In turmoil tossed around?
I'll hope in God, and praise once more
my Saviour God.*

To distant lands I'll go,
still I'll remember you,
Amid the storms of life
your love sweeps over me.
By day your grace outpoured,
by night your song breaks forth;
And so I cry to God my Rock,
'Remember me!'

Now scoffers gather round,
their taunts like broken bones,
They say to me continually,
'Where is your God?'
*Why is my soul cast down?
In turmoil tossed around?
I'll hope in God, and praise once more
my Saviour God.*

O God, defend my cause
from those who break your laws,
From lies and those who falsify,
deliver me.
Your light will shine on me,
your truth will set me free,
You'll lead me to your holy hill,
and there I'll dwell.
My sacrifice I'll bring
to you my glorious king,
I'll praise you with my voice and harp,
O LORD my God!
*Why is my soul cast down?
In turmoil tossed around?
I'll hope in God, and praise once more
my Saviour God.*

S. Jeffery (2015)

Confession and Assurance

This is God's law as his will for your life:

"The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." (Deut 6:4-7)

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.**

God's word tells us:

*"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper,
but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." (Prov 28:13)*

We will therefore confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour,
first in silence and then aloud together. *Please kneel or be seated.*

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and most merciful God, We have wandered and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own
hearts. We have offended against your holy laws.**

**We have left undone those things that we ought to have done; and we have done
those things that we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us.**

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.

Spare those who confess their faults.

**Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises
declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Assurance of Pardon

*"The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in
steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity
and transgression and sin." (Ex 34:6-7)*

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer!
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy,
my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing, "All is mine",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken.
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay.
I labour on
in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, His power is displayed.
To this I hold,
my Shepherd will defend me,
Through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome,
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven.
The future sure,
the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled
and suffered for my pardon.
And He was raised
to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing, "I am free",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus.
For He has said
that He will bring me home.
And day by day
I know He will renew me
Until I stand
with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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God's Word

First Reading: Isa 9:1-7 p.573

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 64

Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint;
preserve my life from dread of the
enemy.

**Hide me from the secret plots of the
wicked, from the throng of evildoers,**
who whet their tongues like swords,
who aim bitter words like arrows,
**shooting from ambush at the
blameless, shooting at him suddenly
and without fear.**

They hold fast to their evil purpose;
they talk of laying snares secretly,
thinking, "Who can see them?"

**They search out injustice, saying,
"We have accomplished a diligent
search." For the inward mind
and heart of a man are deep.**

But God shoots his arrow at them;
they are wounded suddenly.

**They are brought to ruin, with their
own tongues turned against them; all
who see them will wag their heads.**

Then all mankind fears; they tell what
God has brought about and ponder what
he has done.

**Let the righteous one rejoice
in the Lord and take refuge in him!
Let all the upright in heart exult!**

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning,
is now, and shall be forever,
age after age. Amen!**

Second Reading: Matt 22:41-46 p.828

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: What Think You of Christ? (Mark Payne)

Psalm 110 (The Lord Unto My Lord Has Said)

The Lord unto my Lord has said,
"Sit here at My right hand
until I make Your enemies
submit to Your command."

A scepter prospered by the Lord
Your mighty hand shall wield;
from Zion You shall rule the world,
and all Your foes shall yield.

Your people will be gladly Yours
when You arise in might,
like dawning day, like hopeful youth,
with holy beauty bright.

The priesthood of Melchizedek
the Lord has given You;
it shall remain forevermore;
God's word is always true.

You shall subdue the kings of earth,
with God at Your right hand;
the nations You shall rule in might
and judge in every land.

The Lord, refreshed by living streams,
shall neither faint nor fall,
and He shall be the glorious head,
exalted over all.

The Psalter, 1912, alt.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, simply allow the bread and wine to pass by, and reflect on what is taking place.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and eternal God, We thank you for reassuring us at this meal of your favour and goodness towards us, of your word for us.

We thank you that we are truly members of the body of your Son, that we are heirs, by grace, of your eternal kingdom.

We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, to draw us together in love and unity, that we may serve through those good works which you have prepared for us to do through Jesus Christ our Lord, and for His glory. Amen.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall.

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." (Deut 16:17)

Doxology

Praise God from whom
all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures,
here below.

Praise Him above,
ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost.

Praise God before whom
dragons fall.
Praise God who made
the serpent crawl.

Praise Him who crushes
Satan's head,
And rescues sinners
from the dead.

Praise God who sword
to ploughshare beats,
Praise God who sin
and death defeats.
Praise Him who guards us
through the night,
Till he returns
in power and might.
Amen.

James W. Shrimpton (2023)

Benediction & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
**In the Name of Christ,
Amen.**

Notices

<i>This Coming Week...</i>		
Mon 4 th Aug	Fellowship Group	Ref. Alan
Sun 10 th Aug	Morning Worship - Tim Edwards	10am

Sermon Outline

Introduction

The Son of David is David's Son

The Son of David is David's Lord

The Son of David is Jesus Christ

- He is Our Priest (Ps 110:1-4)
- He is Our Victorious King (Ps 110:5-7)

Sermon Notes: What Think You of Christ? (Mt 22:41-46)

Introduction

Some of you came to Christ... reluctantly. Like Lewis, you felt *“the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom (you) so earnestly desired not to meet.”* Eventually you too, *“gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England.”* You finally had an answer to Jesus’ question!

His name:

- Jesus (Joshua) means, *“God is salvation”*
- Christ (Christos) is the Greek form of Māšîaḥ (Messiah), means *“Anointed”*, the promised Son of David who would establish the Kingdom of God

The Son of David is David’s Son

Jesus agrees that Christ would be David’s physical descendant/son, as promised in 2 Sam 2. It’s critical that we defend that truth!

Jesus does not *appear* to be a man, *Jesus is* a man!

But why this way? Heb 2 gives us three reasons

- Death (v. 9)
- Satan (v. 14)
- Atonement (v. 17)

There was no other way, as we are reminded every Christmas (!) when we sing, *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing!”*

But was it enough? What man could do that?

The Son of David is David’s Lord

Jesus takes the Pharisees to the words of Psalm 110, a *“signed copy of God’s promises to His people”* (Augustine), and he quotes v1, *“The LORD (Yahweh) says to my Lord (Adonai): “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”*

- *“Yahweh”* is God’s personal name, reflecting what he said to Moses
- *“Adonai”* can just mean *“Master”* in ordinary speech, but here it’s different because a) of the intensity of the title, only ever used in that way of God, and b) what we see in v. 1, 2, 4. *“Adonai”* has the power and authority of Yahweh, and is a Priest forever.
- No man can do that, hence Jesus’ question: *“What think you of Christ?”*

The Son of David is the Lord Jesus Christ

We're coming to the end of Matthew's Gospel, and he has consistently, up to the end of ch. 22, testified to who Christ is: the Anointed One, the promised Son of David, as we see in

- His opening words, in 1:1.
- The fulfilment of Isa 7, in 1:23
- The cry of John the Baptist, fulfilling Isa 40, in 3:3
- The baptism of Jesus, and the words of the Father, 3:17

But this point, in ch. 22 in Matt, is the last time, in *any* of the Gospels that we hear either the title, "Son of David" or even the name "David". In fact, the title disappears from Scripture altogether.

Why? Three reasons:

1. Jesus stops using it.
2. Judgement. The door of mercy soon closes for these Jewish people.
3. Because he is not just the Kingly Son of David, but the Kingly Son of God, and "all authority in heaven and earth... all nations" (Matt 28, also Ps 2, echoed in Ps 110, and many others).

Christ is our eternal King and Priest, and Ps 110, and "eavesdropped conversation" between God the Father and God the Son, assures us and brings immeasurable comfort.

"Let us shout for joy, for our Saviour reigns, and His Priesthood never fails!!!"
(Spurgeon, Sermon on Ps 110)

Come, Lord Jesus Come!

Amen !!!