

# FOR US AND OUR SALVATION

*An Integrative Study of the Person and Work of Jesus Christ*  
*Lesson #37 – The Work of Christ – Jesus as King (Part 5)*

## Overall Review

### 1) *What does the phrase the “Work of Christ” refer to?*

*“In short, it refers to ALL that Christ did when he came to this earth ‘for us and our salvation,’ all that he continues to do now that he risen from the dead and at God’s right hand, and all that he will do when he returns in glory at the end of the age.” – Robert Letham*

### 2) *What is the threefold office of Christ?*

Prophet, Priest, and King

### 3) *What is the Kingdom of God?*

*“The Kingdom of God is the reign of God dynamically active in human history through Jesus Christ, the purpose of which is the redemption of God’s people from sin and from demonic power, and the final establishment of the new heavens and the new earth.”<sup>1</sup>*

## Lesson #37 – The Work of Christ – Jesus as King (Part 5)

### I. **Review from Lesson #36 and Focus for Lesson #37**

#### a. Last week, we considered two things:

##### i. The “actual and formal assumption” of Christ’s Mediatorial<sup>2</sup> Kingship<sup>3</sup>

1. The Mediatorial Kingship of Christ is a “conferred<sup>4</sup> and economical<sup>5</sup> kingship, exercised by Christ, not merely in His divine nature, but as the God-man.”<sup>6</sup>
2. Therefore, even though Jesus was king by virtue of his divine nature and even though Jesus exhibited kingly dominion and power at times in His ministry, the actual and formal assumption of Christ’s mediatorial kingship was “after the Resurrection, and with the Ascension to Heaven.”<sup>7</sup>
3. See Philippians 2:5-11 & Hebrews 10:12-13

##### ii. The Goal of Christ’s Mediatorial Kingship – To redeem the Universe and “in particular” His Own People

#### b. This week, we will be considering the two “rules” of Christ, which He exercises as the exalted and enthroned God-man.

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<sup>1</sup> Hoekema, Anthony, *The Bible and the Future*, pg. 45

<sup>2</sup> **Mediatorial** – related to the intermediary work of Christ for the reconciliation of God and man

<sup>3</sup> *Mediatorial Kingship refers to the power and right that belongs to Christ, by virtue of what He has done, to rule all things in heaven and on earth, for the glory of God, and for the execution of God’s purpose of salvation.*

<sup>4</sup> **Conferred** – granted or bestowed

<sup>5</sup> **Economical** – reference to reign by action

<sup>6</sup> Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans).

<sup>7</sup> Morton H. Smith, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, 2 vols. (Greenville, SC: GPTS Press).

## II. Christ's Rule of Power

### a. *Christ's Rule of Power is His kingly authority and dominion over the universe.*

- i. **Matthew 28:18-20** - <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
- ii. **1 Corinthians 15:27-28** - <sup>27</sup> For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup> When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

### b. **This rule is subservient to Christ's Rule of Grace and Glory and is ultimately temporary<sup>8</sup>.**

## III. Christ's Rule of Grace and Glory

### a. **Christ's Rule of Grace and Glory is His kingly authority and dominion over His people in both the present and the future.**

#### i. **Present Rule<sup>9</sup>**

1. **Romans 14:7-9** - <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup> For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.
2. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20** - <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.
3. **Ephesians 1:18-22**<sup>10</sup> - <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know...what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this

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<sup>8</sup> Berkhof writes, "This rule will last until the victory over the enemies is complete and even death is abolished. At the consummation of all things the God-man will give up the authority conferred on Him for a special purpose, since it will no more be needed. He will return His commission to God, that God may be all in all. The purpose is accomplished; mankind is redeemed; and thereby the original kingship of man is restored." - *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans). Pg.441.

<sup>9</sup> The nature of this rule is spiritual, which means that it is "not of this world, or according to the patterns of the world." See Matthew 8:11-12, 13:33, 21:43, Mark 4:26-30, Luke 17:21, John 3:3-5 18:36

<sup>10</sup> See 1 Corinthians 11:3 for an example of how "head" refers to authority

age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

4. **Colossians 1:11-14** - <sup>11</sup> May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## ii. Future Rule<sup>11</sup>

1. **1 Corinthians 15:50-57** - I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." <sup>55</sup> "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. **Ephesians 5:5** - <sup>5</sup> For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.
3. **2 Timothy 4:18** - The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
4. **Hebrews 12:28**<sup>12</sup> - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

- b. **Even though expressions of this rule will undergo changes at the consummation of the ages, this rule will continue for all eternity with Christ, the God-man, functioning as our "eternal king."**<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> In one sense, Christ's rule of Grace and Glory is a "present, ever developing, spiritual reality in the hearts and lives" of His people both in heaven and on earth. In another sense, Christ's rule of Grace and Glory is a "future, eschatological hope" that is "consummated in the visible and majestic reign" of the King of kings and Lord of Lords.

<sup>12</sup> NKJV translation

<sup>13</sup> See Psalm 45:6, 72:17, 89:36-37, Isaiah 9:7, Daniel 2:44, Luke 1:33, 2 Peter 1:11