

Seeing Christ's Redemptive Work for Now Sunday, August 8, 2021

- * Do we live our life of faith as though our faith affects life NOW?
- * Do we believe in our heart that the “work of Christ” affects our life NOW?
- * Let's be honest, most Christians conduct their lives as though everything about our faith is “THE SWEET BY AND BY!”
 - Faith is about a destination in heaven.
 - Christianity is a philosophy about life after life.
 - One day when God raps everything up, Jesus will be Lord of Lords and King of Kings.
- * If we believe these statements are true and if we believe our faith is for NOW, it will have an impact on our lives now!

Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- I. The ultimate and life transforming question to be answered is
DOES JESUS HAVE ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND
ON EARTH?

- A. Do I live and act in a way that says to others that Jesus is the final authority in my life?
1. Does the WORLD live as though Jesus is the authority?
 2. You say, “Well one day Jesus is going to rap this life up and He will be in ultimate authority of people’s future!
 3. Actually, Jesus said, I have been given authority...”
 4. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords now! Right now!
 5. Before we condemn the world around us let's ask ourselves this question: Is Jesus Lord in His Own Church?
 6. Is Jesus Lord of your own life?
- B. That question is not near as hard to answer as we might think!
1. Also, the answer can be seen by all of our brothers and sisters in Christ as well as the world around us!
 2. This is a question that we will spend the next few weeks answering! Because the answer to that question is the answer to all of life!
 3. This is the answer in general form:

Verse 20:

“Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

4. Or you might prefer to hear it from another scripture:

Luke 6:46-49 (TPT)

46 “What good does it do for you to say I am your Lord and Master if you don’t put into practice what I teach you? 47 Let me describe the one who truly follows me and does what I say: 48 He is like a man who chooses the right place to build a house and then lays a deep and secure foundation. When the storms and floods rage against that house, it continues to stand strong and unshaken through the tempest, for he built it wisely on the right foundation. 49 But the one who has heard my teaching and does not obey it is like a man who builds a house without laying any foundation at all. When the storms and floods rage against that house, it will immediately collapse and become a total loss. Which of these two builders will you be?”

C. So...the ultimate question is this: WHAT HAS JESUS SAID?

1. THIS is what we should dedicate our lives to...finding out the teachings of Christ!
2. This is what being a disciple is!
3. How can you follow someone or how can you be a student of someone if you don’t know what they taught?

II. Remember, the basis for all of this is the settled fact that JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH!

Philippians 2:6-11 (TPT)

6 He existed in the form of God, yet he gave no thought to seizing equality with God as his supreme prize. 7 Instead he emptied himself

of his outward glory by reducing himself to the form of a lowly servant. He became human! 8 He humbled himself and became vulnerable, choosing to be revealed as a man and was obedient. He was a perfect example, even in his death—a criminal’s death by crucifixion!

9 Because of that obedience, God exalted him and multiplied his greatness! He has now been given the greatest of all names!

10 The authority of the name of Jesus causes every knee to bow in reverence! Everything and everyone will one day submit to this name—in the heavenly realm, in the earthly realm, and in the demonic realm. 11 And every tongue will proclaim in every language: “Jesus Christ is Lord Yahweh,” bringing glory and honor to God, his Father!

A. You see, that settles it! Jesus has the preeminence over all of creation! He is over it all!

1. The question is when? What did the scripture say?

2. One day after it’s all over? One day soon? When?

3. ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN!

Colossians 1:15-20 (TPT)

15 He is the divine portrait, the true likeness of the invisible God, and the firstborn heir of all creation. 16 For in him was created the universe of things, both in the heavenly realm and on the earth, all that is seen and all that is unseen. Every seat of power, realm of government, principality, and authority—it all exists through him and for his purpose! 17 He existed before anything was made, and now everything finds completion in him. 18 He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection, he is the most exalted One, holding first place in everything. 19 For God is satisfied to have all his fullness dwelling in Christ. 20 And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself—back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!

B. It is at this point that we must change our mindset!

1. A mindset that actually directs your life!
2. A literal “world view” or value system that is foundational to everything you do in life!
3. Or as how Jesus Himself put it:

Luke 6:46-49 (TPT)

46 “What good does it do for you to say I am your Lord and Master if you don’t put into practice what I teach you? 47 Let me describe the one who truly follows me and does what I say: 48 He is like a man who chooses the right place to build a house and then lays a deep and secure foundation. When the storms and floods rage against that house, it continues to stand strong and unshaken through the tempest, for he built it wisely on the right foundation. 49 But the one who has heard my teaching and does not obey it is like a man who builds a house without laying any foundation at all. When the storms and floods rage against that house, it will immediately collapse and become a total loss. Which of these two builders will you be?”

4. Or maybe as He said just before returning to The Father:

Matthew 28:20

20 “Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

C. All of this is what Jesus means when He said, “The Kingdom of God is all around you.”

1. “The Kingdom of God is in you.”

2. “Pray for His Kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

D. You see, this was what satan tempted Jesus with in the wilderness!

1. “Command these stones to become bread.”

2. “If You are the Son of God...”

3. “Bow, and I’ll give you all these kingdoms...”