

11/21/21

## Acts 2:33-37, Psalm 110 - "The Session of the Lord and Christ"

### **Sermon Outline:**

Recap of Peter's Sermon:

- "last days"
- Who is the Messiah?
- How is He a victim?
- Where is He now if He is risen?
- He was given the Spirit to pour out on those who are His, and you've witnessed this.

### **What they heard:**

1. Charged with rejecting and executing their Messiah
2. God had made Jesus both Lord and Messiah
3. Jesus is now sitting at the right hand of the Father

### **When they heard:**

\*They were cut to the heart.

- "cut to the heart" = pierced
- only here in the NT, meaning "to pierce" or "to stab"
  - Depicts something sudden or unexpected
  - This is the Holy Spirit's work of breaking into once hardened hearts
  - Shows the Spirit's work because it was sudden and unexpected
  - **They couldn't escape their indictment.**
    - They were overcome with grief and remorse
    - godly sorrow given by the Spirit to produce salvation (2 Corinthians 7:10)

\*Asked, "what shall we do with what we've heard"

- What must we do to be saved?
- How we answer this question is of chief importance
- The wrong answer leads to eternal tragedy
- Our enemy has made great efforts to confuse the answer to this question
  - Legalist - works-based righteousness (James 2:21)
  - Moralist - good outweighs bad (John 5:28-29)
  - Racial Heritage (Romans 9:16)
  - Universalist- all will be ultimately saved (Romans 5:18)
  - Ritualist- baptism (Acts 2:38)
- **Peter gives the correct answer in the closing statements of his sermon**

I want us dive deeper today into what I believe the Holy Spirit used to prick/pierce their hearts..

Let's look closer into "what they had heard"

### **What they had been indicted with:**

1. Realization they had executed their Messiah
2. They themselves had done it
3. Fear of the Messiah's wrath
  - This Jesus is now alive (in v. 34-35, Peter quotes Psalm 110)
  - This Jesus is now alive, **seated** at the right hand of God, and **God will make all of His enemies His footstool.**

- Is there a greater enemy of the Messiah than the ones who rejected and delivered Him to be crucified?
  - This is what the Spirit used to cut them to the heart.
  - **“enemies His footstool”** - ultimate authority and absolute victory
4. What they had done couldn't be undone

**\*\*The Session of Jesus:**

- “the act of sitting”, like congress in session
- **Peter, through David, gives picture to this “sitting” of Jesus**, and I think this is what sets up the apostles' mindset in the rest of the book
- **Sitting indicates a place of power and authority**
- F.F. Bruce, “a seated priest is the guarantee of a finished and accepted work”
- The picture of Jesus seated at God's right hand lets us see Him for who He is now
- The King/Priest - it's good to see and sit in awe of the Lord of glory
- Sitting at D-group Tuesday morning talking about the scriptures, seeing Jesus as both king and priest
- Jesus isn't this humble Galilean carpenter, but He is strong, fierce, and victorious.

**Psalm 110:1-7- The Session of Jesus**

**\*v. 1 - The Lord says to my Lord**

- Yahweh says to Adonai
- Imagine when the Lord enters back into heaven and the Father looks to Him and says

**\*Sit at my right hand**

- An invitation to sit
- A job complete and accepted
- Satisfaction of the Father of the Son's work
- Seated and completed

**\*Until I make your enemies your footstool**

- This is a guarantee
- There is no fear of the future in the mind of God (may we not fear the future either)
- “until” is a promise
- How does God do this?
  - \*through preaching the gospel (people being converted and our enemy's power being overturned)
  - \*one day on all physical and spiritual enemies

**\*Psalm 110 is the most quoted OT passage in the NT**

- Luke 20:41-44 - How can the son of David be the Lord of David?
  - different in nature and reign
  - David's reign ended with His death; the Messiah's reign is forever
  - Hebrews 1:13
  - 1 Corinthians 15:25
  - Hebrews 10:12-13

**\*Making enemies your footstool illustrated in the OT**

- Joshua 10:24
- 1 Kings 5:3
- Image of full authority that encompasses even those who in vain oppose the Lord's chosen One.

## While seated:

### 1. Jesus is “ruling” (Psalm 110:2-3)

- There is no one outside His sovereign rule
- His dominion is in no jeopardy
- Rule in the midst of your enemies
- All of His enemies will be forced to acknowledge His rule.
- As sure as the dew of the morning, so is His rule
- **“His reign shall have no end. His enemies therefore are made His footstool, while He is sitting on the right hand of His Father, as it is written; this is going on now, this will go on unto the end”** (Augustine of Hippo)
- Him sitting, marked the beginning of the full and final defeat of His enemies, and even now he is working to destroy them. He cannot fail, so no foe of His can finally defeat Him or those united to Him by faith alone. Therefore, let our foes do their worst. We are safe in Christ. (R.C. Sproul)
- We don't make Jesus Lord, he already is.. We just recognize it now, or one day we will be forced to.

### 2. Jesus is interceding (Psalm 110:4)

- The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind
  - a promise of the Father to the Son
- you are a priest forever
- both King and Priest forever
- after the order of Melchizedek
  - interesting figure we find in Genesis 14
  - appears out of no where- no beginning and no end
  - He was both a king and priest of Salem
  - interesting- Salem = shalom= Peace
  - so Melchizedek was both the King and Priest of Peace
  - He blessed Abraham
  - Hebrews 5-7 unpacks Melchizedek for us
  - **Genesis 14:18 - And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)**
- Not only is He the sovereign King, but the eternal Priest
  - He himself is both the priest and the sacrifice
  - and now he is seated, symbolizes a finished and accepted work
- Forever, the Father promises, Jesus is the Final Priest
  - we obey Jesus as our King but also enter His kingdom by His own sacrifice
- Know this, child of God, Jesus sacrifice is finished and accepted, forever.
  - so your salvation is forever
  - you have a priest who is seated in heaven.
  - He is merciful and gentle to those who are His

### 3. Jesus is waiting to return (Psalm 110:5-7)

- He will come in power and might
- “As a shepherd is gentle towards His flock, but fierce and formidable towards wolves and thieves, in like manner, Christ is kind and gentle towards those who commit themselves to His cause, while they who willfully and obstinately reject his yoke, shall feel with what awful and terrible power he is armed” (John Calvin)
- Jesus will come again in easy victory is what 5-7 is teaching us
  - First advent marked by burden and sorrow
  - Second advent marked with triumph and ease

- God has fought with the sin of men for their good but one day, His long-suffering will give way to final judgment
- ***“Christ is gentle and kind to His people, but this gentleness and kindness is an expression of strength, not weakness. He is also the fierce protector of His children, and He will judge the earth in righteousness. Our only hope to endure that judgment is to come under the blood of His sacrifice by trusting in Him alone. When we do so, we enjoy not only His kingly rule but also His priestly mediation. Are you trusting in Christ alone this day for salvation?” (John Calvin)***

**Now back to Acts 2:34-37.**

**We see two groups of people:**

- 1. Those who had Jesus as King and Priest — fearless and boldness**
- 2. Those who were enemies of Jesus- fear guilt and trembling**

You are either one or the other: you have the choice to recognize now or will be forced to later.

### **Small Group Questions:**

1. What spoke to you from the sermon this week?
2. What is the Session of Christ?
3. What does it symbolize for Jesus to be seated?
4. How is Jesus both King and Priest?
5. How does it encourage you to know that Jesus calmly ruling over all things?
6. How important is it to be able to understand Jesus is a King but also a gentle and merciful Priest? How do both of these positions of Jesus fuel your faith?