

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS
LESSON 6

HOSANNA
IN THE HIGHEST!



M A R K 1 1 : 1 0

JESUS ON THE THRONE OF DAVID

Scripture Texts: Psalm 132:11; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 2:29-32; Acts 15:14-17

Prophecies and fulfillment agree that Christ is now reigning on David's throne. The kingdom is spiritual and is open to all people.

God promised that Christ would sit on David's throne. When? In the future or now? If He is there now, blessings of His reign are ours to enjoy now. These are important and serious questions. Let us look to the Bible for the answers.

MEMORY VERSE: *For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.* —Acts 13:36-37

God's Promise

Psalm 132:11 God promised David **of the fruit of thy body—a blood descendant—will I set upon thy throne (2 Samuel 7)**. The binding certainty of the promise is stated—the Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it.

Jeremiah 23:5-6 **I will raise unto David a righteous Branch . . . a King**. Who is this? His righteousness and justice make sure His identity. It is further made clear by the fact that He would save Judah. Only Christ can save. He brought salvation to Judah, but few accepted it. The name given fits only Christ—**THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS**.

Luke 1:31-33 When God was ready to send His Son, He sent the angel, Gabriel, to arrange with Mary to be His mother. Gabriel said, **Thou . . . shalt call his name JESUS . . . the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David . . . he shall reign . . . forever**. The identity, clear before, is made unmistakably definite here.

People with honest hearts saw in Jesus the fulfillment of the promise to David. Throughout His life these saw Him as King (**Matthew 2:2; John 1:49; John 19:14-19**). As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, some expressed their belief in Him as the present fulfillment of this prophecy. **Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord (Mark 11:10)**.

The Fulfillment

Acts 2:29-32 Jesus had died, risen again, and ascended to Heaven. Later the Holy Spirit descended and filled the hearts of the believers. Peter preached to the assembled crowd explaining this as the act of Christ by His authority as King on David's throne. He said that by his gift of prophecy, David received from God the promise that from his descendants (fruit of his loins) God would raise up Christ to sit on his throne. When David spoke of one not being left in hell (the grave) nor see corruption, he referred to Christ's resurrection (**Psalm 16:10**). Peter said this had already occurred. God had raised up Jesus by the Resurrection, and raised Him up to David's throne. One proof was His act of sending the Holy Spirit as He said He would do (**Acts 2:33**).

These Scriptures are clear in showing Christ to be on David's throne now. Why then is His taking the throne supposed by some to be future? Because they have not looked high enough, thinking that His reign is earthly, one similar to other governments. The Bible teaches it to be a spiritual reign, very real, but in the hearts and lives of men rather than in physical things. There is great harm in this erroneous teaching. It builds false hopes. It causes souls to miss great blessings and the good things in this life. It removes all hope of the good things in the life to come.

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Teachers of a future reign take many Old Testament prophecies of the first coming of Christ and connect them with His second coming. The Old Testament says very little about His second coming or what will follow. It says much about the Gospel dispensation to begin with Christ's first coming. The New Testament tells of the second coming and a little of what will follow.

His Kingdom Includes All People

Acts 15:14-17 A discussion was being held as to whether or not it was necessary to keep the Law of Moses. Peter held to the fact that since God accepted and saved Gentiles without their keeping of the law, that it was not necessary. In this discussion in **Acts 15** as to the keeping of the Mosaic Law, Peter asked **Why tempt ye God?** (**Acts 15:10**). Tempting God, in Peter's teaching, was trying His patience by binding upon people a requirement not made by God. This is common among religious groups today. The basic question under consideration was upon what terms people should be accepted as brethren. What was the standard of judgment? Peter presented evidence of what God had done—whom He had accepted and upon what terms.

James presented evidence of the Scripture—God's promise to extend salvation to the Gentiles. James pointed to the saving of Gentiles as a fulfillment of Amos' prophecy (**Amos 9:11-12**). The rebuilding of the tabernacle of David meant the establishing of Christ's power on the throne of David. That power was to reach out to possess . . . the heathen. That is, the residue of men—those other than Jews, might seek after the Lord and be saved. When the two lines of evidence—God's work and God's Word—were seen to agree, those present accepted it as the will of Christ and acted in accordance. They accepted saved Gentiles as brethren. Christ tore down the division between Jews and Gentiles, and reigns over all spiritual Israel—all saved people. Those of us who are non-Jews have reason to praise the Lord that now the door of salvation is open to all people (**Ephesians 2:13-19**).

The Scriptures plainly teach that Jesus was raised to David's throne at the time of His Resurrection and ascension, but that He was King before then. In all His work here, He was setting up His kingdom. At its completion, He returned to Heaven to sit down on His throne at the right hand of His Father to rule that kingdom.

JUST A THOUGHT

**All will finally bow to Christ, but only those who
do so now by choice will profit by it.**

This lesson is adapted from a lesson by Mary Lehmann.
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