

I Believe in God the Son (His Reign)

Intro: The once and future King?

I. Risen to declare his victory and reign

Declared...the Son of God...in Power

"concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord"

Romans 1:3-4

Implications:

Go to the resurrection

- a) For evidence
- b) For encouragement
- c) For evangelism

II. Ascended to lead his people to glory

i) **The ascension is a coronation** (Daniel 7:13-14; cf. Acts 1:9)

ii) **The King is fully God and fully Man**

For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

Acts 2:34 (cf. Psalm 110:1)

Implications:

a) **United to Christ we are raised and seated with him**

"may know . . . what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places"

Ephesians 1:19-20 (cf. Ephesians 2:4-6)

b) **United to Christ we have a firm hope**

"Since he entered heaven in our flesh, as if in our name, it follows, as the apostle says, that in a sense we already 'sit with God in the heavenly places in him', so that we do not await heaven with a bare hope, but in our head already possess it."

Calvin, Institutes II, ch. XVI, 16

III. Seated to rule over every power and authority

i) **Everyone, Everywhere, Forever** (Ephesians 1:19-23)

ii) **Everything finds its fulfilment in Christ**

"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."

Colossians 1:16 (Ephesians 1:10)

Implications:

a) *Christ rules. That is a fearful thing if you are his enemy. Repent.* (Acts 2:37-38)

b) *Christ rules. That is a wonderful thing if you are his people. Worship and Rejoice.*
(Philippians 2:9-11; Revelation 1:9-18)

IV. Returning to judge the living and the dead

i) **Returning**

a) **Certain and imminent**

"then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

Matthew 24:30 (cf. Mark 13:26; Luke 22:27)

"Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

James 5:8 (cf. 1 Peter 4:7; Hebrews 10:24)

b) **Unknown but unsurprising**

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only."

Matthew 24:36-37

"But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief."

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4

ii) **Judging**

(Matthew 25:31-32; cf. Romans 14:10-12)

Implications:

a) **Be encouraged**

"The Lord is not slow to fulfil his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

2 Peter 3:9 (2 Peter 2:9)

b) **Be ready**

"Therefore you must also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect"

Matthew 24:44 (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:5-11; 2 Peter 3:11-13)

Conclusion: Look back, look forward, look up