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CHRIST SEATED ON THE GLORIOUS THRONE

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS NUMBER 78 HEBREWS 10:10-12

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In our last study we were discussing the doctrine of sanctification but we did not quite finish it.

Point 6

We live in the Holy of Holies because God the Holy Spirit at the moment of our salvation took us and entered us into union with Christ. We are royalty right now. We are earmarked for blessing. God is glorified in blessing us.

Point 7

The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at the moment of salvation. (Col. 2:12) Therefore the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not something we achieve after we are saved. We do not achieve it because we get it as a grace gift from God. It is not speaking in tongues. It is not ecstatics. It is not connected with some emotional outburst. It happens instantaneous and accompanies salvation.

Point 8

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit interrupted the Jewish dispensation and ushered in the Church Age. (Hebrews 9:26) In this passage we learned that Christ was the conjunction of the dispensations. The Church Age is the age of the royal family of God.

(Matthew 16:18, Acts 2:3, Acts 11:15-17) (This passage says that the baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred in Acts 2:3.)

Point 9

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is one of seven baptisms in the Bible. Many people read the word baptism in the Bible and immediately they think about water.

- a. The baptism of Moses. (1 Cor. 10:2)
- b. The baptism of the cross. (Matthew 20:22)
- c. The baptism of the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:13) d. The baptism of fire. (Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16) (Next we have the three wet baptisms)
- e. The baptism of John. (Matthew 3:1-10) (This was a special ritual not authorized by the Mosaic Law. It identified John's converts with the Kingdom of God.)
- f. The baptism of Jesus. (Matthew 3:13-17)
- g. The baptism of the believers. (Acts 8:36-38, Acts 16:33)

I pointed out last time that these words, "We are sanctified" is a periphrastic and comes from the present, active, indicative of <u>eimi</u> and the perfect, passive, participle of <u>hagaizo</u>. So this means we were sanctified at the moment of salvation with the idea that this is a permanent state and will continue with us as long as we live.

> THE DOCTRINE OF POSITIONAL TRUTH (or why your home is in the Holy of Holies)

1. THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES FIVE THINGS FOR US AT THE MOMENT OF SALVATION a. The Holy Spirit regenerates us. (John 3:5, Titus 3:5) b. The Holy Spirit baptizes us in to the royal family of God.

- c. The Holy Spirit indwells us. (2 Timothy 1:14)
- d. The Holy Spirit seals us. (Ephesians 1:13 and 4:30)
- e. The Holy Spirit distributed to each believer a spiritual gift. (1 Cor. 12:11)
- 2. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE MECHANICS BY WHICH WE ENTER INTO UNION WITH CHRIST. (Acts 1:5, Eph. 4:5, 1 Cor. 12:13)
- 3. POSITIONAL TRUTH BELONGS TO THE CARNAL AS WELL AS THE SPIRITUAL BELIEVER. All believers are in Christ--have exactly the same position. (1 Cor. 1:2 and 30)
- 4. POSITIONAL TRUTH GUARANTEES THAT WE WILL NEVER BE JUDGED IN ETERNITY. Faith in Christ earmarks us for no judgment in eternity. (Romans 8:1)
- 5. POSITIONAL TRUTH QUALIFIES THE BELIEVER TO LIVE WITH GOD FOREVER AND EVER. This union is everlasting.
- 6. POSITIONAL TRUTH IS THE KEY TO BOTH ELECTION AND PREDESTINATION. (Ephesians 1:3-6)
- 7. POSITIONAL TRUTH MAKES US NEW CREATURES IN CHRIST. (2 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 2:10) "Old things have passed away" means our relationship with Adam.
- 8. POSITIONAL TRUTH GUARANTEES THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER. (Romans 8:38-39)
- 9. POSITIONAL TRUTH IS RETROACTIVE. We are identified with Christ in his death and this means we repudiate human good.
- 10. OUR POSITION IN CHRIST MEANS WE HAVE THE SAME THINGS HE HAS. a. Eternal life. (1 John 5:11-12) b. We have Christ's righteousness. (2 Cor. 5:21) c. We share his election. (Eph. 1:4) d. We share his destiny. (Eph. 1:5) e. We share his Sonship. (2 Timothy 2:1) f. We share his priesthood. (Hebrews 10:10-14) g. We share his heirship. (Romans 8:16-17) h. We share his sanctification. (1 Cor. 1:2 and 30) i. We share his Kingdom. (2 Peter 1:11)
- 11. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF POSITIONAL TRUTH. Not an experience. Not ecstatics. Never changes and cannot be improved upon. Not in any way related to human good or human merit. Eternal in nature. Lasts forever. Known only by the Word of God. Received in toto at the moment of salvation.

So verse 10 has said thus far--"By the plan, purpose, design we have been sanctified in the past (at the moment of salvation) with the idea that we will be positionally sanctified forever."

How Is God's Plan Perfect?

How can God come up with a perfect plan when imperfect people are involved in it? His plan is perfect for everything about it is of his design and his plan. None of the plan of God depends on man, it all depends on God. That is the only way you can have a perfect plan and have imperfect people in it. But God does not let us demonstrate our imperfection to the extent that it can alter his plan. In his plan for the believer there is the doctrine of confession of sin which leads to rebound. Then there is the taking in of doctrine which stabilizes the life and sanctification is used for the Royal Family only. Next in this verse we have "through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once." Dia plus the genitive of prosphora and means "through the efficacious offering of his body on the cross." It was his physical body on that cross and we have the genitive of soma. Next we have eph apaxz and this means "at one time." Animal sacrifices were offered thousands of times, but he was offered only once. So the verse correctly translated says, "By which means of purpose, will, design we have been sanctified in the past with the idea that we

will, design we have been sanctified in the past with the idea that we will be sanctified forever--through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ one time."

Summary

This "one time" offering was adequate for all time to come. There can be no necessity for anything ever to be added to it. This "one time" offering fulfilled all the shadows. This "one time" offering abrogated the Mosaic Law and set up a new and better standard on which the royal family is built.

HEBREWS 10:11 "And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:" In these verses just now before us, we are going to see the results of Christ becoming true humanity.

"And every priest" comes from pas men hiereus. The men allows us to say "On the one hand" and later on down we will see "on the other hand.' The word "standeth" is the perfect, active, indicative of histemi. Every priest always had to stand up when he offered sacrifices. There was one mercy seat but no one ever sat in it. The High Priest always stood by the Mercy Seat when he offered sacrifices. There were no seats in the Tabernacle or the Temple. They always stood up. Why do you sit when you worship? Because you are royalty. I stand up to teach but I stand because I am your slave and I administer to you the Word of God. Under the Levitical Code no one sat down. But under the Royal Priesthood, we all sit down at this feet.

The next word we have is translated "daily" but it is from <u>kata hemera</u> and it means day after day after day. The next word "ministering" is the present, active, participle of <u>leitourgeo</u> and this means public worship. The next word is "offering" and this is a present, active, participle of <u>prosphero</u>. They stood up and worked. They were a working preisthood. We sit down, we are to rest in the Word of God. It doesn't mean a sleepy rest, or a careless rest, it means a rest in the soul. The next word is "oftentimes" from <u>pollakis</u> and it means time after time after time. The next word is "thusias" and it means animal sacrifice.

In the English we have "which never can take away sins" but the Greek says hostis (meaning which category) and oudepote. Ou is not, de is ever, and pote is at any time. So we have a word that means "definitely not at any time never." The word dunamai means "was never able" and this is a present, active, indicative to show that no animal sacrifice ever did take away sins. Then we have the aorist, active, infinitive of periaireo which means to make expiation, to take away, to eradicate. Next we have hamartia in the singular and this refers to the cause of sin which is the old sin nature. So this verse literally says, "And to be sure, on the one hand, every priest has stood up day after day publically officiating and offering

priest has stood up day after day publically officiating and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which never have the ability to make explation for sin."

Summary

- 1. Shadow sacrifices are the dreams of early youth. The young man may dream about the ideal woman he wants some day to marry. He has never met her yet. But he dreams about the reality.
- 2. Therefore his dreams are without form or substance, yet she is real in his dreams.
- 3. But, once the young man grows up, he one day sees this woman. He touches her and falls in love and marries her. He now experiences the reality of what had been form and only shadow. He had dreams without substance now he has reality with substance.
- 4. The death of Christ on the cross makes it possible for us to have a memory based on reality.
- 5. The shadows performed a great service but they never did propitiate God the Father. Only the cross could do this.

HEBREWS 10:12 "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" In these verses here in Hebrews we are moving from the old shadows into the new reality. In verse 19 we will see that we live in the Holy of Holies. In verse 20 we will see that we have a new and living way. In verse 21 we will see that we have a real leader we can follow. In verse 22 we will see the command to draw near. In verse 23 we will see the command to hold fast. In verse 24 we will see the command to consider. In verse 25 we will see the command not to forsake worship.

Verse 12 begins with the particle de translated "but" and this sets us the contrast. You remember back in verse 11 we said "on the one hand" and now we have "But, on the other hand." Next we have "this man" from houtos and it refers to Christ. Next we have the aorist, active, participle of prosphero and it looks at the cross in its entirety so it is translated "after he had offered." This includes propitiation, reconciliation and redemption. This is a culminative aorist and it means the total result of the cross. Mian means one and only one sacrifice, one unique sacrifice, one perfect sacrifice. The word for sacrifice is thusian. Next we have huper hamartia and it means on behalf of or as a substitute for us. The word sin is in the plural here to call attention to the production of the old sin nature. The cross cuts the tap root of the old sin nature but it also cares for all the sins the old sin nature produces.

The word "forever" is from dienekes and it means for all time. The animal sacrifices were day after day, but this sacrifice was for all time. Just imagine being in Jerusalem in 67 A.D., about 37 years after the cross, and still be offering animal sacrifices on a day after day basis. Then read at that time eis dienekes meaning that there had been one sacrifice for all time to come. That's why Hebrews 6:6 says the person doing this was putting Christ to an open shame. It was a flat denial of the power of the cross. You can't fool around with shadows and expect to have reality.

We Next Move Into The Great Strategic Victory

This phrase "sat down on the right hand of God" is the phrase that spells out the strategic victory of Christ and his triumph in the Angelic Conflict. The Devil had been determined that Christ would never make it to this throne of victory, but Christ had finally arrived there and the Angelic Conflict had been won. Never was sitting down so important as when our Lord did it in the true Holy of Holies. The royal family sits down to worship because our Lord sat down after his triumph. As long as shadows were the form of worship, no one sat down. The priests stood up to do their work and no one ever sat down in the Tabernacle or Temple. Christ won the victory and sat down, and we sit down to worship. You can stand until you faint. You can stand until you die of monotony. But you sit down to worship because you are not running your life any more. He is running it. You are to sit down and let God run the show. This requires a lot of doctrine. But too often we want to get up and run the show and cause the ship to move a little faster. We come and say, "I have a new idea that will transform the whole universe." But we ought to sit down and listen to him. We actually sit for he was seated at the mercy seat.

"Sat down" is the aorist, active, indicative of <u>kathizo</u>. It is an aorist tense because it is a doctrine so certain that this is exiomatic. This is a forever certain truth. He won two great battles. He won the battle of the Angelic Conflict. He made it possible for the veil to be torn so we could live in the Holy of Holies. It says, "On the right hand of the God." This is the highest honor ever given to anyone in the human race.

Jesus Sat As Humanity

This is very important to remember. God cannot sit down for he fills the whole universe. Jesus Christ is the only celebrity. He is sitting there to supply us with our every need and we can never exhaust all he gives. (Then someone says, "I came to Bible class for three months and it didn't do anything for me.)

Remember this--millions of years ago he wrote a paragraph in his plan just about you. He picked out blessings and has stored them up for you. When are you going to let him open that storehouse and bless you? Taking in doctrine is God's way of advancing you. It all started for us when Christ sat down in heaven.

Up to that time the only thing that ever occupied the mercy seat was sprinkled animal blood. But right now our Lord occupies that mercy seat and it really means a grace throne. All they did was sprinkle blood on that mercy seat. It never dawned on them to sit down there. But when the Lord sits down there he invites all of us to come in, he ripped the curtain open and said, "Come sit down with me."

Only God Can Glorify God

The right hand is the place of glorification. This being seated at God's right hand is the strategic victory in the Angelic Conflict. Satan and the fallen angels were defeated the mement he sat down. This victory is related to us. All of our super grace is based on the fact that he sat down.

THE DOCTRINE OF OUR LORD BEING SEATED

1. Definition.

The ascension is that doctrine of Christology pertaining to our Lord's change of residence from earth to the third heaven, after his resurrection. He did this in his resurrection body. There is a Roman Catholic doctrine that says he took a bowl of his own blood to heaven, then came back and later ascended. This is why they think the blood in the mass is literal blood, the very blood of Jesus.

2. Capabilities of the resurrection body.

The resurrection body could travel vertically or horizontally, it made no difference. The resurrection body was capable of space travel. He traveled to outer space with no difficulty at all. To travel to outer space has caused us much effort and the spending of billions--but in that day, we will have a ticket that will take us, without any cost to us, anywhere we wish to go in space. This is what our Lord did in John 20:17.

3. Christ's acceptance in the true Holy of Holies is the issue. He was not turned away when he arrived there. God the Father is the one who was at the head of the reception committee. God the Father said to him, "Come in and sit down." (Psalm 110:1, Romans 8:34, Ephesians 1:20, Col. 3:1, Heb. 1:3 and 1:13) The Father wasn't saying this to the deity of Christ, but to his humanity. Man, human man, the human Christ actually sat down in heaven and the angels collapsed. At that moment humanity became superior to all angelic creation. The angels read it loud and clear and they knew this was the pattern for all eternity. They will be inferior to us and will serve us through all eternity. We read in the Bible, "To which of the angels said he at any time, sit on my right hand?" And the answer is "To none of them." Right now you couldn't even change punches with an angel, they are so superior to you. But the time is coming when man in his resurr-ection body will be totally superior to all the angelic creation. I am so thankful that Christ sat down. Apparently, before angels fell, God had prepared an amazing amount of blessings and plunder and wealth for them. But they lost it all and all that blessings and plunder is flowing our way. This plunder has never been on the earth before. But starting with the dramatic interruption of the Jewish Age, starting with the resurrection and ascension and being seated at God's right hand, this plunder is now on call for us. It has been shipped to this earth and is ready for our use right now. I have a hunch that angels are going to be the messenger boys to deliver these things to us.

- 4. Being seated there He is the only celebrity. This is the seat of highest honor. No one will ever replace him. No one will ever have the power to remove him. No one will ever take that crown from his brow. He is there because of his capacity. This is what really shakes the Devil apart.
- 5. This is the strategic victory in the Angelic Conflict. In this conflict the Devil and all his fallen angels are defeated This is the story of Hebrews 1 and 2 which we have studied. This is also the story of Ephesians 1:20-22 and Ephesians 4:7-10. These passages emphasize how Christ won the big victory and passes on to us the plunder and spoils of his victory.
- 6. The Ascension Leads To A New Family--The Royal Family of God. When Christ sat down it was the beginning of a new family. And Christ was not satisfied to be alone. He wanted company. Ten days later the Baptism of the Holy Spirit took place and entered all the Church Age saints into union with Christ. And Christ warned them that forty years later the 5th cycle of discipline would fall. Isaiah 28:11 warned them that once Jews heard the gospel in Gentile languages it would be a sign unto them that the fall of Jerusalem and the Jewish nation was near at hand. " Peter's Pentecost sermon was the first gun fired in announcing the coming of the Royal Family of God.
- 7. The Ascension and the New Priesthood. We are not left here without provision and that provision is the golden urn of manna which is the completed Canon of Scripture which contains the doctrine we need. The shadows and ritual are all gone and God has a brand new system. We are in that era when we have the dignity of the privacy of living your own life as unto the Lord. That's why we have verse 25 coming up in this chapter--"Forsake not the assemblying of yourselves together." It is in public worship that we have the privacy of learning the Word of God without being embarrassed by other people. You are your own priest and you have the right to learn or not to learn.
- 8. The Ascension And the Ultimate Defeat of Satan.

This was Satan's certain death knell, his certain defeat. This marked Satan for certain and final destruction. Satan will never recover from this. Satan will continue to fight until the end of time, but he is marked for defeat. His fighting is a rearguard action. He knows he has already lost the war. And there is nothing worse than being defeated by one who has already been defeated. What glory can come from being defeated by someone who has already been defeated? Satan is a whipped chicken and what is worse than being whipped by a whipped chicken? His ranks are broken and all he can do is fight a rear-guard action. (Luke 20:42-43, Acts 2:33-34, Hebrews 1:13) The Second Coming of Christ will end all rear-guard action. (Daniel 7:13-14, Zech. 13:2, Col. 2:15, Rev. 20:1-3)

9. The Ascension Verifies The Adequate Salvation Christ Provides By Bearing Our Sins On The Cross. (Heb. 9:23-24, Heb. 10:12)

"But this one (Jesus Christ) when he had offered one unique sacrifice on behalf of sins for all time sat down on the right hand of the God."