

JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST; THE HOLY SPIRIT OUR COMFORTER

Week 5 – Where is Jesus NOW?

October 10, 2023

“Where is Jesus NOW?” Do we know that where He is now impacts believers beyond enormously?

We need to remember that in Scripture Jesus has been called Prophet, Priest, King. How these leadership offices are fulfilled by Jesus is crucial...even the timing of the fulfillment of these offices.

We know Jesus as the Messiah, *Mashiach* in Hebrew. Do we know what Messiah means? Anointed. “Christ” in Greek *Christos* means...anointed.

Prophets, priests, and kings were all anointed with sacred oil which symbolized the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. They were the little “m” messiahs – anointed ones. There is only one Messiah with a capitalized “M”. He is THE Messiah. He is Jesus, God the Son!

Ceremonial anointing in the Old Testament was a physical act involving the smearing, rubbing, or pouring of sacred oil on someone’s head as an outward symbol that God had chosen and set apart the person for a specific holy purpose.

Jesus declared at the outset of His ministry...

Isa. 61:1 - *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;*

Jesus **the** Messiah fulfilled the Old Testament prophecy as **the** anointed One, **the** chosen Messiah (Psa. 2:2; Luke 4:21). He proved His anointing as THE Messiah through the miracles He performed and the life He sacrificed as Savior of the world.

Acts 10:38 – Peter spoke to Cornelius’ household - *God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*

Let’s look at Jesus as Prophet...

Jesus as Prophet

Prophets were given a message from God...to speak His word to the people. In the Old Testament, prophesying included both proclaiming God’s truth to others and revealing God’s plans for the future.

The people of Jesus’ day referred to Him as a prophet many times, and He took the title upon Himself as well (Matthew 21:11; Luke 7:16; John 4:19; Mark 6:4).

Deut. 18:15, 19 – God told Moses, *The LORD your God will raise up (in the future) for you a Prophet like me (referring to Moses as Moses is speaking to the people) from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear... 19 And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him.* Jesus is this Prophet to Whom the people must listen (Acts 3:17–23; 7:37–38) – or else it will be required of them! (*Required* – to be sought out as to why they didn’t listen! Giving an account. Moreso – destiny was determined.)

Jesus also foretold the future. He told His disciples of His pending death and resurrection (Matthew 17:22–23; 20:17–19), Judas’ betrayal (Matthew 26:20–25; John 13:18–30), and Peter’s denial (Matthew 26:31–35; Mark 14:27–30; Luke 22:61; John 13:36–38). He predicted the coming of the Holy Spirit (John 16:7–15; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4–5), the persecution of His followers (John 16:1–4, 33), and the destruction of the temple (Matthew 24:1–2). Perhaps most encouraging for believers today, Jesus prophesied of His coming return (Matthew 24:30–31; John 14:3).

Jesus is the Word of God (John 1:1). He does not simply speak the Word of God as a human prophet but is Himself the Word made flesh (John 1:14). He is the final word. He is the ultimate revelation of God (Heb. 1:1-2).

Jesus as Priest

Old Testament priests served as mediators between humans and God. *For there is one God and one Mediator between God and mankind, the Man Christ Jesus” (I Tim. 2:5)*. Jesus as our great High Priest at this time is NOT to be confused with the Davidic reign.

And Jesus is sitting at God’s right hand now! WHY? Because He’s interceding for us. I John 2:1 - if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation (the satisfaction) for our sins, Jesus’ sacrifice for us has appeased/satisfied the Father. Believers in Jesus can never lose their salvation!

Romans 8:34 - Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. He has been interceding for us as our great High Priest, since He passed through the heavenlies at His ascension...since sitting down at the right hand of God. Jesus’ intercessory ministry and His position at the right hand of God appear to be connected.

Jesus as King

Jesus offered the Kingdom to Israel...to the physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. But He was rejected as King by the Jewish religious leadership and by many of the Jewish people. We need to remember, though, that the first believers in Jesus were Jewish! Jesus told those who judged Him after His arrest the night before His crucifixion that He is King of the Jews. BUT there was no throne to sit upon as King during His first coming. BUT – the Angel Gabriel had told Mary, when Gabriel announced the birth of Jesus, that she would bear a Son and call His name Jesus. Luke 1:32-33 - He will be great, and will be called the Son of the

Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.

II Sam. 7:10-16 – God told the Prophet Nathan to tell King David... *I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own.... ¹² When your days (David) are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body (Solomon), and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity (and Solomon did... He veered from God) I will chasten him ¹⁵ But My mercy shall not depart from him, ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever – through a future descendant of King David – the Messiah Jesus! The Kingdom will belong to Israel. Because the Kingdom of God was promised to Israel, GOD MUST deliver on that promise. If He doesn't, He is unfaithful...and if He is unfaithful, He is not God!*

BUT GOD is eternally faithful...He is eternally God. God is on schedule to deliver the 1,000 year kingdom. Not now though! The giving of the Kingdom of God to Israel has been postponed. Remember all the “til's.”

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In Dan. 9:24-27, which is Daniel's 70 Week Prophecy, the Angel Gabriel laid out for Daniel God's plan for his people, the Jewish people, and their holy city, Jerusalem – Gabriel laid out the timeframe from the return to Israel...from their exile in Babylon – to rebuilding the temple and the city – to Jesus' triumphal entry – through to the antichrist and the antichrist's total destruction. All that in 4 VERSES!!!! Daniel's 70 Week Prophecy states in Dan. 9:26 that *Messiah will be cut off and have nothing*. At Jesus' crucifixion He was cut off/He died – and He had *nothing* – He didn't have a regal crown, a throne, subjects...He had no kingdom.

And, Jesus told the people that the kingdom was essentially postponed.

Luke 19:11-15 - As Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem for “Lamb Selection Day” – His triumphal entry, we read, ...*because He was near Jerusalem and because they (the people following Jesus) thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately (!!!). ¹² Therefore He said, 'A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.'* About Whom is Jesus speaking? About Himself. ¹³ *So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'* ...¹⁴ *But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.'* ¹⁵ *And so it was that when he returned (from the far country), having received the kingdom....* Jesus has not yet returned!

When will Jesus receive the Kingdom?

NOTE: the kingdom of God will be physical (it will appear; it will be received); it will be on earth (Jesus' will return to earth). There is no spiritual kingdom at this time. There is a

spiritual aspect to the future physical kingdom in that those physically entering the Kingdom (the Kingdom does not enter us) must be born again. Jesus told Nicodemus that to see the Kingdom of God, Nicodemus had to be born again (John 3:3).

Dan. 7:13-14 - *I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven!*

He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.

¹⁴ *Then to Him was given dominion (a realm; sovereignty; power) and glory (honor; splendor) and a kingdom (a realm as in territory). That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him (in the Millennial Kingdom). His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed (a physical kingdom).*

Jesus will receive the Kingdom...Jesus will establish the Kingdom (Matt. 25:31-46).

Matt. 25:31 - *When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. Jesus will reign as King from King David's throne (Luke 1:31-33).*

Jesus is NOT currently reigning on David's throne! That will not occur until Israel, as a nation, places their trust in Jesus as their Messiah – until they acknowledge their offense...until Israel as a nation calls out to Jesus, *Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the LORD!*

When will Israel call out to Jesus?

Zech. 12:2-10 – Toward the very end of Armageddon, we read that God *will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness* (trembling; intoxication, causing stumbling) *to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.* ³ *And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it...* ⁸ *In that day*

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the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; ⁹ *It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.* ¹⁰ *“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, **they will mourn for Him** as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.* ¹¹ *In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, They will call out to Him.*

Zech. 13:1 - *In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.*

Zech. 13:8-9 - ⁸ *And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. ⁹ And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*

Zech. 14:4 - ⁴ *And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

Zech. 14:8-9 - ⁸ *And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be... ⁹ And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.*

...Jesus' Second Coming!

Rev. 19:11-16 - *Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*

Rev. 19:11-16 coincides with Dan. 2:31-44!

Dan. 2:31-44 - King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had a dream that caused him GREAT angst! The dream featured a huge statue of a man. Its head was "made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay" (Dan. 2:32-33). Then a ROCK cut "not by human hands" (Dan. 2:34) hit the foot of the statue, and the whole image "became like chaff on a threshing floor," while the ROCK "became a huge mountain (A KINGDOM) and filled the WHOLE EARTH" (Dan. 2:35). Dan. 2:44 - *And in the days of these kings (kings over the Gentile Empires) the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces (crush) and consume (totally destroy) all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.*

The clay/iron empire is yet to come: the kingdom of the antichrist will be a "revived Roman Empire." The last theory seems to be the best. We know, according to Rev. 17:12-13,

that the Antichrist will lead a coalition of ten nations (the statue's ten toes?). And we know that Christ will defeat the forces of the Antichrist (Rev.17:14). After that, Jesus will set up His kingdom—the rock smashes the image (Dan. 2:34-35) - and the kingdoms of this world will “become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever” (Rev. 11:15).

Where is Jesus NOW? We're told exactly where Jesus is NOW in Scripture!

Heb. 10:12-13 - *But this Man (JESUS), after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.*

Can we understand from Heb. 10:13 that from the time that Jesus sat down at the right hand of God, He's waiting: (“waiting” in Gk means He tarries until; He's delayed (from a human perspective); He's lingering in expectation of returning to earth with the Kingdom!

And, we who are believers will be with Him!!!

Hosea 15:5 - *I will return again to My place till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; in their affliction they will earnestly seek Me*

Jesus will return to His place (heaven) 'til Israel as a nation acknowledges their sin – until they repent.

And Jesus will return with the Kingdom!

QUESTIONS

What was new?

What impacted you and why?

What was confusing? (As you study observe and ask questions as you read the text)

Where will you find the answers?

What do you take away from this week's lesson?

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Reread Week 5 with the Bible references.

Note observations and ask questions.

Pray about sharing part(s) of Week 5 with another/others. Many are interested in end times

Read Week 6 when you receive it.