

Christology Part 4

The King, Humiliated & Exalted

- **What offices does Christ fill as our Redeemer?**

Jesus Christ, as our Redeemer, fills the offices of Prophet, of Priest, and of *King*, both in His humiliation and exaltation.

Summary: Jesus is the only Redeemer, which God providentially ordained from eternity, to be the perfect Prophet, Priest and King. Christ is the Prophet who reveals God most fully to us in His word and work. The Lord Jesus is the Priest who makes the ultimate sacrifice of Himself in order to reconcile all His own to the Father. Finally, Jesus is the King of everything; He is the sovereign over all.

Jesus is now King.

Isaiah 9:6-7 – For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

John 18:36-37 – Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.

Question: What does it mean that Christ the King now?

- **How does Christ perform the office of a king?**

Jesus Christ performs the office of a king in subduing us to Himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all His and our enemies.

Jesus Christ, as King, subdues all His own.

Matthew 28:18-20 – Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples

of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

John 17:1-2 – After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

Colossians 1:13-14 – For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Question: From the perspective of Paul and Jesus, how far reaching is the authority of Jesus’ Kingdom?

Jesus Christ, as King, rules and defends His kingdom.

Psalm 2:4-9 – The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.” I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

Psalm 110:1-2 – The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion; you will rule in the midst of your enemies.

Matthew 12:28 – But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Jesus Christ, as King, conquers and restrains all His and our enemies.

Colossians 2:15 – For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **The last enemy to be destroyed is death.** And **having disarmed** the powers and authorities, **he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**

- **What does it mean that Christ was humiliated?**

Jesus Christ's humiliation consists of His submitting Himself to become a human man, made under the law of God and undergo the miseries of this life. Additionally, Christ was humiliated in His taking the full wrath of God and the curse of death upon the cross. After that, He was buried and continued under the power of death for a time.

In His incarnation, Jesus was humiliated in that He put on the **flesh of humanity.**

2 Corinthians 8:9 – For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

Jesus was humiliated in that He endured the **pains of life.**

Isaiah 53:3 – He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

John 4:6 – Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

Jesus was humiliated in that He submitted Himself to live as a man **under the law of God.**

Hebrews 2:18 – Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Galatians 4:4 – But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law.

Jesus' was further humiliated in that He was **exposed to the full wrath of God and suffered the curse of death upon the cross.**

Isaiah 53:10 – Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering.

Galatians 3:13 – Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Philippians 2:8 – And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Christ's humiliation continued, as He remained under the power of death for a time.

Matthew 12:38-40 – Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you.” He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 – For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

Question: What are the three primary “humiliations” of Christ the King?

Human life and flesh, Enduring God's wrath for sin, Physical death

Question: What if this was the end of the story? In other words, “Jesus came, lived and died... The end.”

- **What does it mean that Christ was exalted?**

Christ's exaltation consists of His resurrection from the dead on the third day, His ascending to heaven, and sitting on the right hand of God the Father. The Lord Jesus Christ is also exalted in His final execution of justice, as Judge of the world at the last day.

Jesus was raised from the dead, vindicating Him from His humiliation of death.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 – For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance**: that Christ died for our sins **according to the Scriptures**, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day **according to the Scriptures**, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

Question: What are some of the details or facts that Paul mentions as essential to the ‘Gospel’ he recites in 1 Cor. 15:3-5?

After having been raised from the dead, Christ ascended into heaven to take His place of authority at the Father's right hand.

Acts 1:10-11 – They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This **same Jesus**, who has **been taken from you into heaven**, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Psalms 68:18-20 – When you **ascended on high**, you **led captives in your train**; you received gifts from men, even from the rebellious—that you, O LORD God, might dwell there. Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. Our God is a God who saves; **from the Sovereign LORD comes escape from death.**

In His resurrection and ascension, Christ is exalted as rightful King.

Acts 2:32-36 – **God has raised this Jesus** to life, and **we are all witnesses of the fact**. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and **has poured out what you now see and hear**. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”” **“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this:** God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Hebrews 1:1-4 – In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed **heir of all things**, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the **exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word**. After **he had provided purification for sins**, he sat down at the **right hand of the Majesty** in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

Question: What contrast do we see in the coming of the Messiah to the earth and His ascension into the heavens?

Jesus will be the final and ultimate Judge at the last day.

Acts 17:30-31 – In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will **judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed**. He has given **proof of this to all men by raising him** from the dead.”

Question: Does the biblical depiction of Christ as the final and ultimate judge have any effect on the popular view of the demeanor/personality of Jesus?

Jesus is now the King of glory and the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Revelation 5:6-14 – And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a **Lamb** standing, **as though it had been slain...** And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the **Lamb...** And they sang a new song, saying, **“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”**

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, **“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,** to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, **“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb** be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and **worshiped.**