**Exalted**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday February 27th, 2022

Text: Acts 2:21-36

Intro

1. Paul described the nature of Christ in *Philippians 2:5-11* as:
   1. Fully God *(Phil. 2:6)*
   2. Fully man *(Phil. 2:7-8)*
   3. Exalted *(Phil. 2:9-11)*
2. On the day of Pentecost, Peter stands with the 12 Apostles and preaches Christ and salvation, beginning with Joel 2:28-32:
   1. “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Acts 2:21)
   2. “Jesus of Nazareth…” (Acts 2:22)
   3. “Whom God raised up…” (Acts 2:24)
   4. “Exalted to the right hand of God…” (Acts 2:33)
   5. “Both Lord and Christ…” (Acts 2:36)
3. Peter shows that Jesus is the “Lord” whose name must be called on from Joel 2!
4. Peter proclaimed Jesus as the Exalted Lord and Christ!
5. Jesus: The Man
6. From the time of Jesus until now, the humanity of Jesus has been oft misunderstood, maligned, and either outright rejected, or taught as the sole characteristic of Jesus *(ONLY a man),* etc.
7. Both the O.T. & N.T. teach the humanity of Jesus:
   1. Old Testament: *Psalm 132:11 (II Sam. 7:15-16; Isaiah 11:1; Acts 2:30: The promise of a descendant of David to sit upon his throne); Isaiah 7:14-16 (Jesus’ virgin birth); 53:2-9 (The promised Suffering Servant); Micah 5:2 (Matthew 2:1-6: Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem)*
   2. New Testament: *Galatians 4:4 (Born of a woman); Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:15 (Tempted but without sin); 10:10 (His death); I John 4:2-3 (He came in the flesh)*
8. Fully man! (Acts 2:22-23, 30 [from Ps. 132:11; II Sam. 7:15-16])
   1. Paul’s statement: The eternal Christ took “the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:7-8)
   2. Peter’s statement: “Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst…” (Acts 2:22)
9. He became flesh to:
   1. Qualify Himself as man’s High Priest – *Heb. 2:16-18; 4:15-16 (Fully man!)*
   2. Die to save man from sin – *Jn. 1:29; Heb. 2:9; 9:28; 10:4, 11-12; Rev. 1:5*
   3. Deliver His people from the power and fear of death – *Heb. 2:14-15*
   4. Destroy the works of the devil – *I Jn. 3:8*
   5. Give us understanding of who God is – *I Jn. 5:20*
10. Jesus lived and was a man as we are, yet without sin! *(Hebrews 4:15)*
11. Jesus: The Crucified
    1. Acts 2:23: “…this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.” (Phil. 2:8)
    2. The death of Jesus was not an accident:
       * 1. Foreordained before the foundation of the world – *I Pet. 1:18-20 (Eph. 1:4; Heb. 4:3)*
         2. His death was a free will offering for sin – *Phil. 2:5-10; Heb. 5:8-9*
         3. Jesus knew He was going to die and did not avoid death – *Mt. 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:18-19, 28; 26:2, 12, 28, 31, 46, 53*
         4. Jesus preached that His death fulfilled the O.T. – *Mt. 26:55-56; Lk. 24:44-47 (Is. 53)*
    3. He died in accordance to the will of God for the sins of the world! (Heb. 10:5-14)
       * 1. God was not satisfied with animal sacrifices *(Heb. 10:5-8)*
         2. Only the death of the Son of Man would satisfy God *(Heb. 10:9-10)*
         3. Jesus offered that sacrifice for all time *(Heb. 10:10-14)*
    4. Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified to save the world from sin! *(John 1:29)*

###### Jesus: The Resurrected

1. Acts 2:24, 32: Peter preached that though the Jews put Jesus to death, God raised Him up!
2. Some people use this point to deny the deity of Jesus and teach only His humanity: Their argument goes, “If God raised Jesus from the dead then Jesus only had power common to prophets.”
3. It is said many times that God raised Jesus from the dead:
   1. *Acts 2:24, 32; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30, 37; 17:30-31; Rom. 4:24; 6:4; 10:9; I Cor. 6:14; 15:15; II Cor. 4:14; Gal. 1:1; Eph. 1:20-21; Col. 2:12*
4. As Jesus is part of the Godhead it is also said that Jesus raised Himself up from the dead!
   1. Luke 24:4-7; John 2:18-22; 10:17-18
5. Jesus’ resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith – we do not hope in a mere man but in God!
   * + 1. *I Corinthians 15:12-17*
6. Jesus was raised from the dead, setting our hope in the resurrection and eternal life!

###### Jesus: The Exalted

1. Acts 2:33: “Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God…”
   1. *Acts 5:31; Rom. 8:34; Eph. 1:20; Col. 3:1; Heb. 10:12; 12:2; I Pet. 3:22*
2. Paul said, “God highly exalted Him” (Phil. 2:9-11)
3. Peter said, “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).
4. The importance of Jesus sitting at the right hand of God:
   1. We will be like Him – *I John 3:2*
   2. He is our motivation to be pure – *I John 3:3*
   3. He is the source of help in our time of need – *Hebrews 4:15-16*
5. Jesus is exalted and to be worshiped to the glory of the Father *(Philippians 2:10-11)!*

###### Jesus: The Divine

1. Acts 2:34-36: Peter quoted from Psalm 110:1 & Psalm 16:8-11 as proof of the deity of Jesus!
   1. Jesus made this same argument to the Pharisees – *Matthew 22:41-46*
   2. The Hebrew writer makes the same argument – *Hebrews 1:1-13*
2. Peter ascribes to Jesus the Greek word *“Kurios” (G2962)* which is the Hebrew equivalent to YHWH *(H3068: “Yahweh”)*
   1. *Yahweh (G2962 Kurios: Lord)* – Acts 2:34-35 (From Psalm 110:1: “The *Yahweh* said to my *Adonay*”) Peter uses *Kurios*, which means “Supreme Authority” and is used of both God and Jesus.
   2. Jesus also equated Himself with *YHWH (Kurios)* – *John 8:57-58* (“I AM”: *G1510 eimi:* “I exist”) – When asked if Jesus had seen Abraham, “…before Abraham was born, I am.”
3. Paul said, “He existed in the form of God” (Philippians 2:5-7)
4. Fully God! (Joel 2:32; Acts *2:16-21*, 36; John 8:57-58)
   1. Peter began with *Joel 2:28-32*, where God foretold that one day the people could call on the name of the Lord and be saved, and he then tells the people who that “Lord” is!
   2. Joel 2:32: LORD = *YHWH (H3068: “Eternal; Self-Existent”)*
   3. Acts 2:36: Says Jesus is LORD = *Kurios (G2962: “Supreme authority; God, Lord)* and Christ = *Christos (G5547: Equivalent to Heb. “Messiah;” Anointed of God)*
5. Jesus is both Lord and Christ and will save those who call upon His name in obedience to the gospel through baptism! *(Acts 2:38; 22:16)*

#### Conclusion

1. Isaiah 53:8-10:
   1. Perhaps the only O.T. passage that says what Peter *(Acts 2:22-36)* and Paul *(I Cor. 15:1-8)* preached concerning Jesus: Death, burial and resurrection.
   2. All 3: Death (53:8: “cut off from the land of the living,” 53:10: “putting Him to grief,” “guilt offering”), Burial (53:9 “grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet He was with a rich man in His death”), Resurrection (53:10: “He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days”).
   3. How will God see a dead man’s offspring? How will God prolong the days of a dead man? Because God raised Him up from the dead! ***Foretold long ago!***
2. Peter preached Jesus as:
   1. The Man
   2. The Crucified
   3. The Resurrected
   4. The Exalted
   5. The Divine
3. Those who put Him to death were pricked in their heart upon hearing Who it was they crucified! (Acts 2:37)
   1. They became concerned for their souls and asked what to do.
4. Peter’s answer to their dilemma was to “Repent!” and “Be baptized in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins” and they would receive the “gift of the Holy Spirit (salvation, forgiveness of sins) – Acts 2:38
5. Have you believed in Jesus, the Exalted One, and obeyed Him to be saved? *(Acts 4:10-12; Hebrews 5:9)*
6. If not a Christian, need to be! Repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins!
7. If a Christian in error, repent and be renewed!
8. Whatever your requests, let them be known ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!