

The Crowning Moment of Christ's Saving Work

1Jn 3⁸ For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Rom 14⁹ To this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

► The modern church typically doesn't celebrate Christ's ascension, but the early church celebrated it long before they celebrated His _____, for they regarded Christ's ascension as the crowning moment of his saving work, and that indeed is how Scripture presents it. Christ's ascension marked his coronation as _____ of kings. Christ's ascension is what Daniel saw in his vision.

Dn 7¹³ "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 and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

This is why John, in his opening greeting of Revelation, referred to Jesus as "the _____ over the kings of the earth." And Heb 12 says Jesus is shaking the nations until what remains is the only thing that cannot be shaken – the kingdom of God.

Rev 1⁴ John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

Heb 12²⁵ [W]e [shall] not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, ²⁶ whose voice then shook the earth; but now ... not only the earth, but also heaven." ²⁷ [T]his ... indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, ... that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ [W]e are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken

► Today, we focus on why Jesus becoming Lord of this world 2000 years ago is essential to his saving work, including the forgiveness of our _____ and our going to heaven when we _____. Our texts are probably the most succinct statements of the _____ in all of Scripture. Christ had to become _____ of all in order to destroy the works of the devil.

► What are the works of the devil? Jesus identifies three:

_____, _____,
and _____.

John 8⁴⁴ "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."

► The devil _____ to our First Parents, then used that lie to murder them by enticing them to _____, which brought them into captivity to sin and death and thus to the devil (Gn 3.4-6, 17-19, 23-24).

Rom 5¹² [T]hrough one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men ... ¹⁷ [B]y the one man's offense death reigned through the one ... ¹⁸ [T]hrough one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation ... ¹⁹ [B]y one man's disobedience many were made sinners

Heb 2¹⁴ ... him who had the power of death, that is, the devil

2Cor 4⁴ [Those who are perishing,] whose minds the god of this age has blinded, ... lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ ... should shine on them.

2Tm 2²⁶ and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

► Behind all of this, there is a _____ room setting:
(1) _____ means adversary, and _____

means accuser; (2) Satan appears before God and engages in those _____; (3) The devil tempted Jesus by offering him authority over the world's kingdoms, saying that it had been _____ to him. Thru Adam's sin, Satan won rightful legal _____ over Man and the Earth, as well as judicial standing in the _____ of God.

Job 1⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them ... ⁹ So Satan ... said ... ¹¹ "[S]tretch out Your hand and touch all that [Job] has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" (cf. Job 2.1-5).

Luke 4⁵ Then the devil ... showed Him all the kingdoms of the world ... ⁶ And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

► To destroy the Devil's work, someone had to get his case dismissed by proving: (1) they were _____ of Satan's accusations, and (2) they had a superior _____ to Man and the Earth. But Adam and all his sons _____

on both counts. Satan had checkmated Man and stalemated God — or so it seemed.

► Enter now Jesus, the Son of God. Being fully _____ and conceived by the Spirit of God, not Adam, Jesus was qualified as a potential representative and _____ for Man.

Heb 2¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same ...¹⁷ [I]n all things He had to be made like His brethren

Lk 1³⁵ [T]he angel answered and said to [Mary], “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.”

► Jesus was tempted and tested in every _____ Adam was (and as we are), and He pleased God in every circumstance, being obedient even to the point of death on the cross.

Heb 4¹⁵ [Jesus] was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Phil 2⁸ He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

► Jesus died for Adam’s sin and ours, paying our debt and breaking Satan’s _____ over us.

2Cor 5²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Heb 2¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

► Jesus entered into death on our behalf, but death had no _____ on him; He burst death’s chains.

Acts 2²⁴ whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it ...

³²This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

► After appearing to the disciples and teaching them over a period of forty days, Jesus ascended to heaven where _____ broke out between the holy angels and Satan and his fallen angels. Satan was thrown down to earth, for no place was found for him in heaven any longer. In legal terms, Jesus presented a superior _____, Satan’s case was thrown out, and Satan was thrown down the courthouse steps. Satan still seeks to devour and makes war against the church, but he is handcuffed, for Jesus has rightful claim over Man and the

Earth, and he is asserting that claim via the Great Commission.

Acts 1³ He also presented Himself alive [to His disciples] by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God ...

⁹ [W]hile they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Rev 12⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne ...⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” (cf. 1Pet 1⁵ [Y]our adversary the devil ... seek[s] whom he may devour)

Rev 11¹⁵ There were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.”

Mt 28¹⁸ “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

► We see that it was only as the new and final Adam and rightful King of this world that Jesus could assert a superior claim to Man and the Earth and defeat Satan, who ruled by the power of sin and death. We cannot biblically separate Jesus’ saving work from his Kingship, nor can we biblically separate his office of High Priest by which he atones for our sins from his office of King. Jesus is High Priest in this world to the same extent that he is _____.

Heb 10¹² [T]his Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

Ps 110¹ The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ...⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not relent, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand