Jesus the Christ. Psalm 110. Mark 12:35-44

In the genealogy of Israel's fathers, Jesus Christ comes much after David. Then how is it that David calls the Christ his master and Lord? How can the Christ be David's descendent and at the same time David's Lord? How can Jesus be after David and before David?

In the Jewish hierarchy, the son or the descendants can never be greater than the father. Therefore anyone coming after David could never be greater than David. But the problem here is this: David called the one who is to come after him "Lord". Even John the Baptist, who is older to Jesus, said that he is not worthy to untie the sandals of the one who comes after him, because he is actually before him.

David was inspired by the Holy Spirit (Mark 12:36) to declare Jesus as Lord. In these verses, Jesus is establishing himself as the Christ, the Messiah, the Lord of all. He is also exposing the dangers of some wrong understanding about the Christ. Here are some of them: *(1) Jesus Christ is a mere infant boy.* This may not be a danger for everyone, but there is definitely a tendency to reduce Jesus to a mere infant boy especially during the Christmas season. He is not an infant anymore, he has grown and God has seated him at his right hand in a position of victory and authority in the heavenly realms, and those who believe in Jesus will also be seated in this position of authority and victory (Ephesians 1:20, and 2:6).

(2) The danger of a domesticated Christ. The Jews in the first century had domesticated Christ into a mere political and military leader. The role of the Messiah had been confined to the nation of Israel alone. This was a domesticated Christ.

(3) A mere teacher and leader of the scribes. For the Scribes, whom Jesus is addressing here, Jesus was an excellent teacher. But if we read the Gospels carefully, the words of Jesus are not the words of a good humble teacher. Sometimes he even sounds like an egomaniac. He could say with a perfect straight face things like, "I am...all that you need". He could talk like this because he was God. Any good human teacher will never say the things Jesus said for fear of putting his career at risk.

Jesus is God. He comes to us as a prophet to bring justice and declare judgement. But he is more than that. He also comes as a priest to offer forgiveness and be the perfect sacrifice on the Cross. But he is more than that. He also comes as a King to rule and execute God's law. But he is more than that. He is God.

He is not sitting on the defendant's chair. He is the one who is asking questions. He is seated on the prosecuting chair, asking questions and passing judgement.

The Scribes and the Widow.

(1) The Scribes (vv 38-40). Jesus derides the Scribes of his day. But their list of faults does not look very serious. The list (long prayers, greetings, honourable seats, etc) may even suggest good citizens. But they look funny, irrelevant and really sad. The point is this - *this is what we look like when we get Jesus wrong*.

(2) The Widow (v 41ff). The widow had nothing, but she gave all that she had to the Lord. Her heart was transformed and transferred to a spiritual state where she is not controlled by external and material things anymore. *And this is what we look like when we get Jesus right*.

The widow also reflects what Jesus came to do. Like the widow, Jesus gave his all for us on the Cross. - Pastor Kedo Peseyie



VISION statement of the City Church:

City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.

AIMS of the City Church:

Worship: To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.

Fellowship: To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.

Evangelism: To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.

Discipleship: To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.

Mission: To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the unreached for Christ. December 10, 2017; Vol. XII, Issue 47



SUNDAY SERVICE

Leader	: Viketua Chupua
Speaker	: Pastor Kedo Peseyie
Ushers	: Imlisanen Longkumer
	& Chenakum Ovung
Keyboard	: Vizolenuo Solo
	Call to Worship
	Praise & Worship
Reading	: Psalm 119:169-176
	Mass Prayer
Offertory & announcement	
Hymn No.78	: One Day
Message	
Hymn No.152	: I've Found a Friend, O such a Friend
Benediction	

- Pray for God's care and protection upon all our children those who are appearing their exams.
- Continue to Pray for the ongoing Hornbill Festival which ends today, that God's intervention will be manifested during this time and that it would turn out to be God honoring.

PSALM 119:169-176

May my cry come before you, LORD; give me understanding according to your word. May my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise. May my lips overflow with praise, for you teach me your decrees. May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous. May your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts. I long for your salvation, LORD, and your law gives me delight. Let me live that I may praise you, and may your laws sustain me. I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands.

Sunday, December 3rd, 2017 Tithes: ₹ 19,000 Mission: ₹ 500 Offering: ₹ 11,280 Christmas Feast: ₹ 500 Nagamese: ₹ 390 Total: ₹ 31,670

INFORMATION

• Enroute today 3pm at church.

• Wednesday Bible study at 5pm.

NOTES:

<u>citychurchkoh@gmail.com</u>, Facebook: "City Church Kohima". Contact: 0370-2242687/ 8131862333