



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- In Matthew 22, the Pharisees, Sadducees and the Herodians all took turns to try and entrap Jesus asking three tough questions:
 - 1) Is it lawful to pay Caesar taxes?
 - 2) Whose wife in the resurrection?
 - 3) What is the greatest command?

- Jesus' answered all three with great reasoning and they were left speechless.
 - With their opportunity now over, it was now Jesus' turn to ask a question for them.

- **Matthew 22:41**

**Now while the Pharisees
were gathered together,
Jesus asked them
a question,**

- **42** **saying,**
**"What do you think
about the Christ,
whose son is He?"**

- What think ye of Christ?
- Whose Son is He?
- What a question.
- The most important question of all questions.

- The most common title of the Messiah was **“Son of David”**.
- Behind it lay the expectation that there would one day **come a great prince of the line of David.**

- **Who would shatter Israel's enemies**
and lead the people to
the conquest of all nations.
 - The Messiah was most
commonly thought of in
nationalistic, political,
military terms of power and glory.
 - By asking this question
Jesus is attempting
to correct that misconception.

- It is not enough to call the Messiah Son of David.
 - He is not David's son;
- He is David's Lord.

- When Jesus healed the blind men, they called him Son of David (Matthew 20:30).
- When he entered Jerusalem the crowds hailed him as Son of David (Matthew 21:9).

- What do you **think** of Christ?
- Whose **Son** is He?
- When it comes to opinions about Jesus Christ, the **world has never lacked for any variety of suggestions.**

- About 100 A.D.
the Jews wrote in the
Babylonian Talmud:
Jesus
practiced magic
and led Israel astray.

(Gerhard Lohfink-German Catholic priest and theologian)

- Ralph Waldo Emerson,
himself not a believer,
said,

- *"Jesus is the most perfect of all the men that have yet appeared on the earth."*

- Rennan

the French atheist
said

”He is the greatest
among
the sons of men.”

- **David Strauss**
who was a staunch
hater of Christianity
and denied all of its
supernatural claims said Jesus
is, quote,

- ***"The highest model of religion within the reach of human thought."***

- And it has always been that Christianity has found its most violent detractors and its most aggressive attackers coming at the deity of Jesus Christ.

- The major emphasis of those who would deny the reality of Christianity is to attack the deity of Jesus Christ, emphasizing that He is a man and nothing more.

- **The Center for
Spiritual Awareness**

led by

Roy Eugene Davis says,

- ***"Jesus was an enlightened soul and men must be awakened to their own Christ nature within them."***

- **Christian Science** teaches that Jesus was a mere man who demonstrated a divine idea **but His blood cleanses nothing.**

- **The Church Universal
and Triumphant
with Elizabeth Claire
(Supposed Prophet)
as leader says**
- ***Jesus is a man with Christ consciousness, one of many men who have achieved that level.***

- Free Masonry
says, quote,
- "***We tell the sincere Christian that Jesus was but a man like us.***"
- Hare Krishna
says,
- "***Jesus is just another guru.***"

- Both the scriptures and the prophets affirm that
 - *Jesus Christ and Lucifer are indeed offspring of our Heavenly Father and, therefore, spirit brothers.*

(Jess L. Christensen, Institute of Religion director at Utah State University, Logan, Utah.)

- Jesus, Satan, and all humanity share God the Father as their spiritual sire.
- However, moral agency led Jesus to obey God the Father perfectly and share fully in the Father's divine nature and power.

- The same agency led **Satan** to renounce God, fight Jesus, and doom himself to eternal damnation.
- The remainder of God's children, all of us, **have the choice** to follow the route chosen by Satan, or the path to which Christ invites us and shows the way.

- All false systems have a problem with the unique identity of the deity of Jesus Christ.

- And that is where the battle lines are ultimately drawn in terms of the Christian faith.

- And these misrepresentations and misconceptions are not new.

- In fact, they even existed in the time of Jesus Christ.

- The Jews believed in a non-deity Messiah.
- They believed their Messiah would be a human political military leader.
- And this text comes as a corrective to that very serious error.

- Notice the question then,
as the Pharisees
were there gathered,
Jesus asked them saying,
 - What is
your opinion
of the Christ?

- He's not asking about Himself, it's indirect.
 - He's not saying am I the Christ.
 - He's not saying what is your opinion of Me?
 - He is asking them for a Messianic identification.

- This was a simple question for the Pharisees to answer, for the coming Christ would be a descendent of King David.

- Though the Pharisees struggled to see Jesus as the Christ, they knew that the Christ would be coming through the lineage of David, for the OT made it quite evident.

- Even though Jesus was a descendent of David's lineage, they simply had a problem with Jesus being the Christ
 - Jesus will now leave them to struggle with the question.

- **Matthew 22:41**

**Now while the Pharisees
were gathered together,
Jesus asked them a question,**

- **saying,**
**"What do you think
about the Christ,
whose son is He?"**
- **They said to Him,**
"The son of David."

- **Matthew 22:43-46**

- **He said to them,**

- **"Then how does**

David

in the Spirit call Him

'Lord,'

- Jesus is quoting Psalm 110.

- This was a well known Psalm

among the Jewish leadership concerning their perception of the coming Messiah.

- They believed the Christ would come as a mighty King and establish a kingdom like David.
- He would defeat Rome and all other enemies,
 - Humiliating them at his feet and ruling them permanently.

- Is it any wonder that during a time of great persecution against Israel that this became one of the more popular Psalms?
 - The nation had a history of great military victories in the past, but this would be the greatest victory of all.

- The apostles still thought this even up to forty days after the resurrection from the dead.

- Acts 1:6

And so when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

- The problem was that Jesus did not fit the description because to them He was a poor, humble, smooth-talking carpenter from a nowhere place in Galilee.

- The popularity of this Psalm is reflected in its usage in New Testament as well, for it is the most quoted verse from the Old Testament.

- **Jesus is quoted twice**
in the gospels
to explain Whom He is
(**Matthew 22:42** & **Luke 20:43**)

- **Peter quoted it in**
the sermon on Pentecost
to explain Jesus
as the Christ
(**Acts 2:34-35**).

- The writer of the Book of Hebrews quotes similar references five times in his explanation of the Christ (Heb 1:13, 5:6, 7:17, 9:8, 10:13)

- To Jesus question they have no answer, for to comment on it only further point out their ignorance about who the real Christ was.
- Before the great crowd of delighted listeners, the Pharisees were shut up once and for all.

- If they could not answer
a simple question like this,
then how could they be trusted
in saying that Jesus was
a blasphemer and
not the real Christ?
- They were the greatest minds
in all Israel,
yet they could not answer
an uneducated Galilean.

- Jesus answered all their questions with ease, but they could not even comment on one of their favorite text.
- Their reputation and opinion was pretty much useless.
- And the common people were beginning to see this.

- 1 Corinthians 1:19

- *For it is written,
I will destroy the wisdom
of the wise,
and the cleverness of the
clever
I will set aside.*

- **"They said to Him,"**
without hesitation.
 - That's easy.
"David's son".
 - And they hurried
to show their knowledge
when in fact they
show their ignorance.
 - **Any Jew**
would have
given that reply.

- That's what all the scribes taught.

- Mark 12:35,

Jesus says you believe
that Messiah is the
Son of David

because that's
what the scribes teach. ■47

- So the Jews had it correct that the Messiah would come in the lineage of David .

- Now this is very important.

- That is why **Matthew** goes to great lengths to present Jesus Christ's genealogy **in chapter 1.**

- He traces the entire genealogy from Abraham through David down to Joseph to Christ.

- If Jesus had not been of David's lineage, you can be sure that would have been a major issue.

- That would have disqualified Jesus instantly from being the Messiah.
- As temple records on the genealogy of everyone were kept with the finest detail.

- And it's only been since the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. that the Jewish people today no longer know their genealogy because the records have been lost.

- **A Jew couldn't hold any civic responsibility** in the nation unless their genealogy was known.
- A **priest** would never marry someone whose genealogy they did not know.
 - So genealogy was **very very important.**

- And if they could have disqualified Jesus on a non-Davidic line, they would have done it.
- The fact that they didn't and never brought it up indicates that in fact He was from the line of David.

- Therefore he was qualified humanly to be the King of Israel.
- And if they had had a monarchy in those days, He would have been the king.

- But their answer, as right as it was, was inadequate.
- It was correct but it fell short of the full answer.

- So, they were saying to Him,

"Who do You think You are, letting people call You Son of David?"

- That great Messianic title

is too great a title for You."

- And He is saying

no,

it's too a small

a title for Me.

- Where do we find the answer?
- Davidic descent is only one mark, there's got to be another one.
- Where are we going to find it?

- The first place
we ought to look
is where?
- In the scriptures.
 - And that's
exactly where
the Lord goes.

- Look at verse 43 again.
- "*How then doth David
in the Spirit
call the Messiah Lord?*"
- There's a qualifier there that's very important.
 - When David called the Messiah Lord he was what?
 - *“In the Spirit”*.

- That's the same Greek phrase used in Revelation 1:10.

- Telling us that John was in the Spirit on the Lord's day.

- It means to be under the control of the Holy Spirit.

- Mark gives a comparative statement.

- Mark 12:36

"How then doth David
in the Holy Spirit
call Him Lord?"

- So He's not talking about the human spirit,
He's talking about
the Holy Spirit.

- Anybody who wants to knock out the deity of Christ has got to deal with this verse.
- And its really suffered the arrows of the critics.

- When the Lord says
David calls
the Messiah Lord
in this Psalm,
the Lord is therefore
interpreting this Psalm
for us and He's telling us
three things.

- When Jesus quotes Psalm 110:1,
 - He says:
 - One,
it is Messianic;
 - Two,
it is written by David;
 - Three,
it affirms the deity of Messiah.
 - That's its intent.

- And what did God say
to David's Lord?

- Look at verse 44,

"The Lord God said
to my Lord, the Messiah,
the Christ,

Sit Thou on My right hand."

- What does that mean?

- God Himself has designated **a position of rank** for the Messiah that places Him at His own right hand and makes Him co-equal.
 - **Equal glory** promised to the Messiah because He is **equal deity.**

- If there were nothing else in the Bible but **Revelation 22:16**, it would be enough.

"I Jesus,"

here's His own testimony,

"have sent My angel to testify unto you these things in the churches."

- Listen to this,

"I am the root and the offspring of David."

- He is David's Son,
- He is David's Lord,
- God-man.

- Luke 2:52 says

*He grew in wisdom, stature,
favor with God and man.*

- Every bit human,
every bit the Son of David.

- He knew pain.
- He knew thirst.
- He knew hunger.
- He knew weariness.
- He knew sleep.
- He knew pleasure.
- He knew death.

- If God became a man
we would expect
His human life
to be sinless.
- Jesus was.

- If God were to become a man we would expect Him to be a model of purity.

- Jesus was.

- If God were a man we would expect His words to be the greatest ever spoken.
- Jesus' words were.

- If God were to become a man we would expect some miracles.
- And Jesus did them.

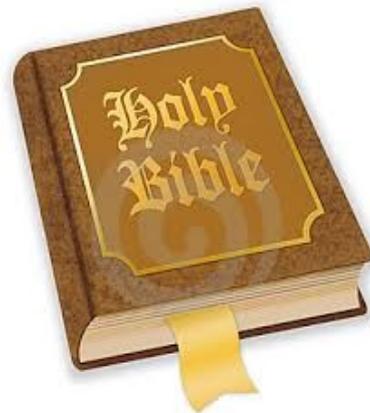
- If God were to become a man we would expect Him to manifest the love of God.
- And Jesus did.

- **And the conclusion**
can only be that
He's God, David's Son,
David's Lord.
- And **anyone** with
an open heart can see that.
- **Where is your heart today?**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



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