

Scriptures and Doctrine :: "Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz

"Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz - posted by adamdawkins, on: 2009/3/26 21:36

Hi all,

I am a great admirer of Art Katz. His teachings always cut me to the heart, and I believe the Lord will continue to use his material for a long time to cut through to my innermost parts and probe, test and challenge me.

When reading through *Apostolic Foundations*, which I think is spot on in the challenges that it presents, I came across some eschatological views of Art's that I hadn't come across before. One of which is the idea of a separation of **saints** between the first and second resurrection, what do you think?

NB: I still think the challenges even of this passage are worth us taking to heart, whatever our doctrinal conclusions and persuasions.

THE MYSTERY OF REWARDS (from Apostolic Foundations)

Neither will we all rise at the same time. Some of us will rise with the first resurrection of a first fruits kind, that is to say, those who will rule and reign with Him in His millennial Kingdom. Others will sleep through the Millennium, and only rise with the general resurrection of the dead that is described in Revelation Chapter 20, where the books will be opened, including the Book of Life, to see if their names are written in it.

Some of us will not be equipped to rule and reign with Christ, because we have ignored, or forsaken, or have had no stomach for this kind of responsibility, though we *could* have obtained it in this life. Those Christians, who have been content to sit passively in fellowships their entire Christian life, because they were assured they were "going to heaven" may well be profoundly disappointed. I would not want to miss the first resurrection, and that is why Paul is continually exhorting the saints to be found blameless in the Day of the Lord's appearing. We have an eternal incentive to obtain a distinctive reward of the high calling in Christ Jesus. Apparently it is not for everyone; for it says that the rest shall sleep:

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgement was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the word of God, and those who had not worshipped the beast or the image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection." - Revelation 20:4-5

It is a remarkable reward for a remarkable service in a remarkable time of Last Days' oppression and persecution, where the greater number evidently could not stand in a faith that could resist succumbing to the mark of the Beast. The 'beheaded' are a people who will prefer to perish rather than take the mark, of which we are warned, that if we take it, we will be cast into the lake of fire with the Devil.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION

"And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." - Revelation 20:11-15

Just from a simple reading of that text, I would have to say that those who were not qualified to rise with the blessed, hol

y and priestly saints had to wait a thousand years. They missed the initiation of God's Kingdom, and any participation in it. The clear and literal deduction must include a number of those who *were* saved, but who lived lives without any significant distinction that would have earned them the reward of a first resurrection, and were therefore to be judged with all the other dead. They did not rise with the first resurrection, otherwise there would be no need to consult the Lamb's Book of Life. Those who rise in the first resurrection, and because of that rising, reveal the approval and acceptance of being found *in* Christ. Their walk, their conduct, character and works qualify them for the resurrection. If we do not rise, then we have not qualified. We were not found worthy for that first resurrection. Paul said that he strove to obtain *the* resurrection. It is not automatic, but rather a 'being found worthy.' Those who are mature, those who are overcomers, those who have the character of Christ, who are *in* Christ, and who can hear His trump will rise. Those who are not *in* Christ, who are immature, untested, unqualified and unworthy, will sleep for a thousand years.

Those whose names are found in the Lamb's Book of Life are going to be saved out of hell, and from being thrown into the Lake of Fire with all the rest of the dead, but I would not want to wait to see if my name was written. There is a possibility that it might have been written, and has since been blotted out. It was so paramount for Paul to qualify for that first resurrection. And we will never be blessed, holy or priestly - the qualifications for the first resurrection - unless we have the kind of determination that Paul had, namely, to be found worthy of that first resurrection.

"And the nations were enraged, and Thy wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to give their reward to Thy bond-servants the prophets and to the saints and to those who fear Thy name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth." - Revelation 11:18

Here is the judgement of God, destroying those who destroy, but giving reward to both *small* and *great*. There is a reward at every level, and at every grade, proportionate to the work and the investment. To be without reward will be an eternal shame.

DISCLAIMER: Please don't turn this into a Once Saved Always Saved, Calvinism vs Arminianism type thing over a couple of sentences - please keep this about the topic of resurrection! Thanks :)

Re: "Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz - posted by adamdawkins, on: 2009/3/26 21:36

If you don't fancy reading the whole thing, just the part under THE FIRST RESURRECTION will give you enough of a gist of what is being said.

Thanks,

Adam

Re: , on: 2009/3/26 21:58

I believe Scripturally, this is true - that is if these folks die.

If we're ruling and reigning with Him from Rev 20:4-6, then there has to be those who didn't take the mark but were not overcomers - for there to be someone here for Him to Reign over.

Makes sense to me Scripturally from Rev 20 in it's entirety.

I wonder if that may not be the 5 foolish "virgins"?

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/26 22:56

Paul knew exactly who his labor and striving was coming from;

Colossians 1:27-29 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles ; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

He who works in us mightily is the perfection in Christ that we attain to be Holy and blessed in the first resurrection.

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

I am not blessed or holy by anything I do, it is Christ in me that makes me blessed and holy. Now my striving and labor will bring blessedness and holiness, that I might take part in the first resurrection, a priest of God and of Christ and shall reign 1000 years with God and His Christ who is our abode with God the Father, Jesus Christ and the blessed Holy Spirit sent from God at the request of Jesus Christ, The blessed Holy Spirit who will be in us, not just with us, but in us, "New Creatures" forever as Christ in us and the Father will always be in us, "The With is not enough for God, That is why we must be born again to see the Kingdom of God.

JohÂ 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

JohÂ 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

1PeÂ 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

Which if studied should read, not "which", but, who for an eternal lifetime be thine own forever.

Who is this Word? John 1:1-4 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Born How? John 1:13-14 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

This is our birthright as son's of God, "Christ in you the Hope of Glory".

In Christ: Phillip

Re: "Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz, on: 2009/3/27 0:32

Quote:

-----Art Katz wrote:

Those Christians, who have been content to sit passively in fellowships their entire Christian life, because they were assure they were "going to heaven" may well be profoundly disappointed. I would not want to miss the first resurrection, and that is why Paul is continually exhorting the saints to be found blameless in the Day of the Lord's appearing. We have an eternal incentive to obtain a distinctive reward of the high calling in Christ Jesus.

Yes, Paul did say all that Art said, plus -

Php 3:10, 11 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; **If** by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Php 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

1Ti 1:18, 19 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck

2Ti 2:3-7 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

1Co 9:24-27 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: but I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Php 2:12-15 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world

Even Peter:

2Pe 3:14-17 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

1Pe 1:13-16 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

The 5 foolish virgins were told "I knew you not" by the LORD, so I guess that rules them out.

Thinking about the warnings that He gave to some of the churches in The Revelation.

Mat 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Re: - posted by HeartSong, on: 2009/3/27 0:54

Quote:
-----Jesus-is-GOD wrote:

The 5 foolish virgins were told "I knew you not" by the LORD, so I guess that rules them out.

Thinking about the warnings that He gave to some of the churches in The Revelation.

A while back I was listening to this sermon by David Wilkerson (I think this was the one):

Virgin Lock Out by David Wilkerson

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Wilkerson points out that these were virgins that were locked out - not whores, but virgins - clean and pure virgins that were only lacking one thing - oil.

Re: A little "push back", on: 2009/3/27 9:40

I would like to give a little push back, especially about the introduction of this article.

Quote:
----- I still think the challenges even of this passage are worth us taking to heart, whatever our doctrinal conclusions and persuasions.

So what is more important, challenges from men? (No matter what their reputation)
Or, clearly understanding what the Word of God says?

Mr. Katz is teaching doctrine here, so I think we should be focused upon whether or not it is true because doctrine (teaching) leads to something. Doctrine takes us places, whether we want to admit that or not...

Doctrine: What we believe and what we teach...

The doctrine of the Judaizers led them to reject the Grace of God.

The doctrine of the Pharisees led them to ignore widows and reject outsiders.

At one point Peter's doctrine led him to separate himself from the gentile Christians.

The doctrine of some Muslims leads them to blow themselves up.

The doctrine of Jehovah's Witnesses leads them to labor for God's favor and go door to door every weekend attempting to earn the smile of God.

The doctrine of the faith movement leads people to give money in order to get money.

The doctrine of some denominations around where I live leads them to drive only black cars, and wear head coverings.

The point is this: Doctrine matters. What we believe and what we teach is paramount. Challenges from men who, remember... are just men. Do not take precedence over our desire to clearly understand what the bible says. Yes, we respect them for their work and accomplishment, but I also respect men and women outside of the Church for their work and accomplishment.

We should approach every message, every article, and every opinion on this website with the same mindset.

Re: , on: 2009/3/27 9:46

Quote:
-----The doctrine of Jehovah's Witnesses leads them to labor for God's favor and go door to door every weekend attempting to earn the smile of God.

About 30 seconds after I posted this a Jehovah's Witness came to my door. :-D

Re: "Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz, on: 2009/3/27 10:03

About the exhortations to the churches - I just swiped this from one of Chris's post.

:-)

Quote:

(scroll over to read)

Revelation 2:7

Revelation 2:11

Revelation 2:17

Revelation 2:26-29

Revelation 3:5

Revelation 3:11-12

Revelation 3:21

Re: - posted by adamdawkins, on: 2009/3/27 10:52

Hi Mahoney,

Thank you for your kind rebuke. I wholeheartedly agree with you, though I know my introduction suggested otherwise.

The very reason I posted this is because, despite Art's 'reputation', he wrote this as a man, and is fallible and could well be wrong. I found the doctrine surprising because I hadn't heard it before, which was the very reason I was challenging it.

I'm not someone that believes that as long as someone's intentions or reputation are wholesome then their doctrine is also. Art actually teaches on how not only is sound doctrine important, but that the person speaking the doctrine is 'true' in themselves. But it does work the other way, the doctrine must also be the truth, as revealed by God!

I must admit, I wrote this post in the small hours of the morning, and when I wrote the sentence you brought into question, I hadn't quite finished writing out the chapter, which, as you say, is just straight doctrine.

What made me say what I did was when I read into some elements about being found worthy of Christ. My thoughts were that Art may well be incorrect with regards to this doctrine, but that we need to live lives worthy of our high calling is still challenging regardless.

I realise also that re-reading my post I come across as sounding like I have an unhealthy respect for Art, and as such do not want to risk dirtying *his* name more than the Lord's. That is not so, it's just that in **challenging** and testing his doctrine I didn't want to come across as someone who is opposed to Art in himself.

I need to be more careful about how I communicate in written form because I agree with all of what you said in your post

.

Thank you for picking me up on it.

Adam

Re: - posted by adamdawkins, on: 2009/3/27 10:59

Jesus-is-GOD,

Given the negatives that are mentioned that 'he that overcomes' will avoid, can it be said that this really refers to taking part in a first resurrection out of the **saints**?

Eating from the tree of life = in Heaven?

Not be hurt by the second death = avoiding the Lake of Fire.

I will not blot his name out = same as above

The only one of the above that seems to directly fit in with what Art is suggesting is Revelation 26-29: - "...to him I will give power over the nations..."

Art is suggesting that you can not make the first resurrection (i.e. not overcome - maybe?) but still avoid the second death, because, in his words, the second resurrection still contains saints whose names are in the Lamb's book of Life.

What do you think?

Re: , on: 2009/3/27 15:23

:D Amen - I thought you'd catch that - "power over the nations"

Though I wouldn't separate the warnings or commendations HE gave to All of the 7 churches to the overcomers or what constitutes an "overcomer".

There will be people that are not resurrected at His Coming - not meeting Him in the air as He's descending/Returning - so who might they be - if all who had taken the mark are destroyed at His Coming? Rev 14:9-11

I see what Art is saying by the verses he used ...

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 *But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.*

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

then after the Millennial reign ...

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

He wouldn't have said this if All were not found in The Book.

The main thought being, who will be here for the 1000 yr.s, who He and the overcomers rule and reign over? Besides those who look upon Him who they pierced and mourn over, as for their only son...Zec 12:10

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/27 23:29

How many believe they can live like Christ?

Has anyone lived like Christ in their own strength?

Who's nature do the born again now have?

I never could or never can live a life like Christ.

Only the Incorruptable Seed of the Father that now is my life, "Christ in you the Hope of Glory", is the only way a Christ Life can come from me. The Nature of God now living in me, and coming forth as me by the Christ in me, is the only Christ Life available.

"I can do nothing without Him". As Christ did nothing without the Father, we can do nothing without Christ.

Joh 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

Joh 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

Joh 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

This is where the rubber meets the road. Phill 4:13; I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

"through" is not enough, It must be, "in," at, (up-)on, by, etc.:

This is my fixed position in time, space and matter, Strong's Greek Dictionary 1722. en

Search for G1722 in KJVSL

en en en

a primary preposition denoting (fixed) position (in place, time or state), and (by implication) instrumentality (medially or constructively), i.e. a relation of rest (intermediate between 1519 and 1537); "in," at, (up-)on, by, etc.:

So it is Christ in me coming forth as me that makes us who we are in Christ. Nothing, WE, do, but what Christ has done on the Cross and by His resurrection Power still working in the life of the believer, by the Holy Spirit, Christ as us that makes us son's of God and Christ-ones, Christians.

In Christ: Phillip

In Christ: Phillip

Re: , on: 2009/3/27 23:45

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

I agree with the Scriptures but you fail to give the most important historical Example of How we are to "walk".

As HE did - Always "looking up" to The Father, by His Spirit - to give the thoughts, words and deeds done - originating From HIM and not ourselves.

But we need to "look up" and ASK - there Must be a co-operative relationship.

What you are teaching will frustrate some and make others lethargic to How HE works "through" us.

Our child-like dependence on HIM - as Christ Jesus **was** our Living Example.

He said, The words that I speak and the works that I do - are not mine but the Father's.

We cannot get there by hearing "we need do nothing".

We need to be in constant 'communion' with HIM and total dependence on hearing HIM.

That is work against what the flesh would rather be doing.

Your wording could cause some to stumble,, ie, "Nothing, WE, do"

It was not JUST HIS resurrection but HIS LIFE that must factor into how we are to "walk".

Re: "Some of us will rise with the first resurrection" - Art Katz - posted by theopenlife, on: 2009/3/27 23:56

Hello. Might I suggest something different, which I believe does far more justice to the text:

The first resurrection is regeneration.

The confusion has to do with a poor division of the text into verses.

Look at this idea in the text, with what I (and I believe most pre-1800's commentators) hold to be the proper form:

Rev. 20:4-6

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.

v.5 This is the first resurrection. v.6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Seems very plain. If it weren't for our culture and the bad versification, I don't imagine many would hold Art's view.

Love in Christ.

Re: pardon reposting, please., on: 2009/3/27 23:57

Peter said that, there is a way to 'wrest/pervert the Scriptures to our own destruction' - either way - legalism, sinless-perfection or easy-grace.

A human who chooses to not be victorious in Christ - would love any easy way out.

Rather than read ALL of Romans 8 - they'd love to just quote it in part - "no condemnation" - period and go along in the

flesh, doing what they "think" is right and/or wrong and just confessing it over and over and over again.

Romans 8 is not saying that that is how we have to live.

It says plainly - that there is no condemnation *to them which are IN Christ Jesus, who walk NOT after the flesh, but after The Spirit ... and then continues on to expand on that "walk".*

It is not anything complicated. I posted Romans 8 and showed Jesus' earthly life as our Example.

HE did not have it Over us - HE was 'our' Example of how to "do this walk."

Please - Count how many times Jesus said "My Father".

See how many times that HE said, "the words that I speak are not mine own but" "

And - "the works that I do are not mine but" "

Look and see how many times it says that Jesus "looked up" into Heaven to the Father.

Total dependency on The Father - through The Spirit - as a little child.

Asking Father what to do, say, think and so forth.

With us, many or most times, He'll point us to something from His Word --- but it's just the question of 'taking that minute' to look-up in spirit and ask.

That's it!

Setting our minds on things above --- seated in Heavenly Places --- praying without ceasing --- Knowing, hearing and following The Shepherd's Voice so that we won't follow another --- as helpless little children or dumb sheep --- Looking Up -- having our minds washed by the cleansing of The WORD --- Trusting in the LORD with all of our hearts and leaning not unto our own understanding and in ALL of our ways, acknowledging HIM, so that HE shall direct our paths ... knowing that ALL things are working together to conform us into HIS Image ... not by our works but by that dependence of looking up in constant prayer to HIM by HIS Spirit to guide, teach, lead, fill us with HIS WORD

Total utter child-like Dependence which is "Active Continuous Faith in HIM" and not upon ourselves to "perform" but to "be led" and filled with the mind of Christ in and by His Word and John 16:13-14.

Like a little child - leaning, listening, filled with His Word and obeying what we hear or read.

Eating The WORD of GOD and full dependence on HIS John 10 Voice by HIS John 16:13 Spirit.

Then HE gets all the Glory and our minds are so full of HIM, there will be less time to allow temptations to make a nest in our heads.

Remembering that "sin" is just missing the mark of HIS IMAGE and not just immoral acts.

It's The Image of The Son that The Father had planned through the First born.

Not humans constantly falling until they're bruised enough from each "sin" to finally stop that one "sin" --- one "sin" at a time.

I don't find this "keep trying and failing" walk in HIS WORD --- I see HIM as our Only Example of total dependency. According to Romans 8 and the whole of the N.T. - there's not a mention of boasting nor constant failing.

He's given us "HIS faith" - we have the GOD given potential to be those called the Overcomers.

Not by might - not by power - but by His Spirit - 'through' our child-like looking up in constant dependence on HIM - as J

Jesus did while here in human flesh, as we are.

Filled with HIS WORD and HIS SPIRIT - more than conquerors through Him that loves us.

The goal set before us is being in that constant communion 'more and more' - taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ - looking up and eating His Word.

It's not a mystery of "how to walk in the Spirit" - it's just our self-reliance that swings us into either legalism or easy-grace

"Looking up" as Jesus constantly did - as a son looks onto his father - for guidance and to his father's words is not "works" - it's merely childlike or sheep-like Dependence.

The strife of Cain against Abel continues on -- though to follow HIS Example is so plainly written out for us about "dependence" -- but if we continue on being ignorant of HIS Dependent Example & keep on doing it our way **or** the condemnation we feel - we *will* lose our Love.

1 John 4:17

Herein is our Love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as HE is, so are we in this world.

Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

So we thy people and sheep of Thy pasture will give Thee Thanks for ever: we will shew forth Thy praise to all generations. Amen! To Thy Glory.

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/28 0:35

Quote:

""He said, The words that I speak and the works that I do - are not mine but the Father's.

We cannot get there by hearing "we need do nothing".

We need to be in constant 'communion' with HIM and total dependence on hearing HIM. ""

Then we must say the works we do are not mine but the works of Jesus Christ in me. We need do everything we Hear from Him. We have ears to hear and eyes to see, but fall short in faith to believe that the Christ in us is our life and it is He that working in us to do the greater works for the Kingdom of God, not signs wonders and gifts as our premise. It is Christ that will do the works in us when they are needed for the Kingdom, for it is the Holy Spirit that severely distributes the gifts as He pleases for the Body of Christ. How bad we have been deceived that it is us that does the works of the Gifts that God is the only one that give them to men and they work by His Holy Spirit to fulfill His great plan.

Eph[^] 1:1 ¶ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Eph[^] 1:2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph[^] 1:3 ¶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Eph[^] 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Eph[^] 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Eph[^] 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Eph[^] 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Eph[^] 1:8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

Eph[^] 1:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

Eph[^] 1:10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which

are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

Eph 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Eph 1:12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

This is what is missing in the Church, but not in the Body of Christ His Church, for it His working in us that makes us sons able to do the works greater than He did, to fulfill the dispensation of God. Which is Christ in you the Hope of Glory.

Colossians 1:25-29 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Who's works work in us mightily according to His working? This is our Labour. Presenting every man perfect in Christ by His workings, the ministry of reconciliation;

This is our righteousness the world should see. Him in us walking on this earth in all our brothers and sisters and reconciling all those the Father send Christ to for salvation by Faith through Grace.

2 Corinthians 5:19-21 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

This is our thanks and walking papers, trust in Christ and let His works shine through us as His works, if we believe the scriptures by Faith through Grace unto the kingdom of God where we already dwell in the Heavens in Christ Jesus our Lord and He in us, coming forth as us.

Colossians 1:12-29 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Paul says it is His working which worketh in us mightily that will present every man perfect in Christ Jesus, This is our Labour, to fill up, Colossians 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

In my flesh for His body's sake? which is the church which is behind in the afflictions of Christ in our flesh. He will do the works in us that bring forth the glory in Christ in us to the Glory of the Father. Our work is much more than just keeping the Law, but spreading the Gospel of Christ in you the hope of Glory, which is given for us that we might be the instruments as Gods sons for His good pleasure.

WE can do nothing, He in us can do all thing through us if we believe He is doing them and we are His friends folling His lead and direction for the works of the Body of Christ for the kingdom of God and all who believe and will believe on Jesus Christ as the Son of God unto salvation.

phÂ 2:1 Â¶ And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

EphÂ 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

EphÂ 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

EphÂ 2:4 Â¶ But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

EphÂ 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

EphÂ 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

EphÂ 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

EphÂ 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

EphÂ 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

EphÂ 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: , on: 2009/3/28 0:58

I stressed that it is HIS working "through" us - but HE needs our co-operation because we are not a robot-bride.

I only stressed dependence on a "communion" with HIM.

Where we don't walk after what we 'think' we should be "doing" - but using HIM as our Example - looking Up to hear The Good Sheperd and Follow His lead by His Strength because we Love Him.

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Eph 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

From the beginning in Deut 6 - His Two Commandments are to Love Him with all that we are and others - as He did/does. There was only One Covenant - that of Love bringing Grace.

Joh 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

Joh 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Joh 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

1Jn 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

1Jn 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1Jn 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1Jn 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

1Jn 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1Jn 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and **do** those things that are pleasing in his sight.

1Jn 3:24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2Jn 1:6 And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Rev 22:14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come,

and his wife hath made herself ready.

A "wife" who "Loves" her Husband does not "do nothing" but she "listens to & for and depends on her Husband's Voice" , submits and seeks in every way to please Him - in any way He asks or directs, by His strength, to any guidance, direction, command or unction that HE Speaks or has Spoken in His Word.

That's Love!

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/28 1:11

Re:
I stressed that it is HIS working "through" us - but HE needs our co-operation because we are not a robot-bride.

How can we be robots with the living glorified, resurrected and by birthing, having this Son of God in us, the Incorruptible Seed of the Father, literally the Sperma of God which has brought forth in new birth a new creature in Christ Jesus

Ro 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Ro 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same i

n hope,

Ro 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Ro 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Gal 6:15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Col 1:23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; Whom did Paul minister to but the new creatures in Christ, Gentiles or Jews that the Father has given the Son.

Re: , on: 2009/3/28 1:26

I believe The WORD of GOD to be inerrant but our verse pulling loses something of The Whole.

You are pulling verses telling us the obvious of what HE has done - I am only trying to balance your comments between Scripture with our "co-operative relationship" by giving the Scriptures stating our part of this Two-Sided Relationship.

The balance would be the proper tension between your Scripture posts and those Scriptures you leave out.

As far as your question above - we need only look at Christendom since the First Church to see that we have sorely missed something - and I contend that it is that we have not come to see our need to "walk as HE did, by listening Up to GOD and following." That Total Dependence - that John 10 Sheep relationship. That wife to Husband relationship. HE's always there to speak and guide and direct and empower if we'd only stop long enough to "look up" as HE did and lean not to our own understanding but in all our ways acknowledging HIM so that He can direct our paths - even our thoughts, words and actions... which are all based in His Love for others.

"Self-less" as HE was.

A selfless person can take no glory.

GOD Bless you.

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/28 1:28

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Who chose His wife and made her ready before the foundation of the world?

Ephesians 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

A perfect and chaste wife, made the Lamb's Bride by His working in us.

Ephesians 5:22-28 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

We are the bride of Christ and He has made us this way by His loving us and giving himself for us. Just like a husband should by God's wishes.

Much more than just, "should be": Strong's Greek Dictionary

5600. o

Search for G5600 in KJVSL

w o o es ace; e ay; etc.

the subjunctive of 1510; (may, might, can, could, would, should, must, etc.; also with 1487 and its comparative, as well as with other particles) be:--+ appear, are, (may, might, should) be, X have, is, + pass the flower of her age, should stand, were.

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/3/28 1:34

Quote:

""You are pulling verses telling us the obvious of what HE has done - I am only trying to balance your comments between Scripture with our "co-operative relationship" by giving the Scriptures stating our part of this Two-Sided Relationship." ""

This is the churches or the Brides big problem, it is not two sided, it is only one sided when it comes to The Body of Christ, It is all of Him and none of us, even though we think it is part of us, as it says the less I become the greater He becomes, and the closer I come to the new creature in Christ the Father wants in His house.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: , on: 2009/3/28 2:00

I'm sorry Brother, but I cannot see a One-sided marital relationship in His Word - from Genesis to Revelation, I just can't see it.

I see "if you will - I will"

I see "if you don't - I won't"

I see "I work and you work out".

Rather than go around again - I'll repost this and if you'd comment on this particular post directly, maybe we could come to the balance.

Thank you!

I stressed that it is HIS working "through" us - but HE needs our co-operation because we are not a robot-bride.

I only stressed dependence on a "communion" with HIM.

Where we don't walk after what we 'think' we should be "doing" - but using HIM as our Example - looking Up to hear The Good Sheperd and Follow His lead by His Strength because we Love Him.

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Eph 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

From the beginning in Deut 6 - His Two Commandments are to Love Him with all that we are and others - as He did/does. There was only One Covenant - that of Love bringing Grace.

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Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, *and his wife hath made herself ready.*

A "wife" who "Loves" her Husband does not "do nothing" but she "listens to & for and depends on her Husband's Voice"

, submits and seeks in every way to please Him - in any way He asks or directs, by His strength, to any guidance, direction, command or unction that HE Speaks or has Spoken in His Word. That's Love!

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2009/3/28 7:53

Hi everyone,

"The balance would be the proper tension between your Scripture posts and those Scriptures you leave out."

I think this is important.

I think it is possible to make heresy out of true or even sound doctrine. As I understand it, the word translated heresy does not signify 'false doctrine'. According to Strong's Greek Dictionary, the word translated heresy in Galatians 5:20 is:

G139

αἵρεσις

haireisis

hah'ee-res-is

From G138; properly a choice, that is, (specifically) a party or (abstractly) disunion. (Â"heresyÂ" is the Greek word itself.): - heresy , sect.

The language of the Bible comes to us in its entirety without lengthy 'what if' and 'if then' questions and explanations.

Re: maybe the answer's in here?, on: 2009/3/30 21:20

Mat 25:14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

Mat 25:15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

Mat 25:16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

Mat 25:17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

Mat 25:18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

Mat 25:19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

Mat 25:20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

Mat 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Mat 25:22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

Mat 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Mat 25:24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

Mat 25:25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

Mat 25:26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sow

ed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

Mat 25:27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Mat 25:28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

Mat 25:29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

Mat 25:30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Mat 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Mat 25:36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Mat 25:37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

Mat 25:38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Mat 25:39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

Mat 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Mat 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Mat 25:42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

Mat 25:43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Mat 25:44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

Mat 25:45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

Mat 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Re: - posted by theopenlife, on: 2009/4/1 14:50

Looking again at Rev. 20:5-6, regeneration is now. This is why the first resurrection has already taken place for believers, and is how they are ruling with Christ. "The rest of the dead" (the damned) will not be raised until the judgment following Christ's return.

Lest we confuse the second sentence of the verse as having to do with these damned ones, non-believers cannot have any part in the first resurrection, for "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Even now Christ sits on the Throne of David beside the Father (Heb 1:3, Acts 15:14-17) (<http://www.enjoyinggodministries.com/article/acts-1514-17-and-the-rebuilding-of-davids-tabernacle/>) this article is good) and we reign as kings and priests with Him through faith.

The end of the 1000 years will coincide with the beginning of the tribulation, when Satan is loosed for a season from the chain which prevents him from launching unified world persecution against the Church, i.e. Great Tribulation. (<http://www.enjoyinggodministries.com/article/problems-with-premillennialism/>) This article as well)

This means that the Millennium is 1000 years in the way that Christ really is a Lamb. The Millennium is figurative language; it really means something but not literally a thousand 24-hour periods.

The scripture does this in other places, too. "The Day of the Lord", "in that Day", and Daniel's "70 weeks," each represent an epoch, but not the literal amount they are termed with.

I recommend this sermon:

(<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?sid12402191718>) <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?sid=12402191718>

Re: - posted by White_Stone (), on: 2009/4/1 18:00

Thank you for your post, it seems much clearer to me now.

white stone

Re: , on: 2009/4/1 18:44

Hi Michael

You probably know that I believe in the Pre-Millennial Return of Christ at the end of the tribulation and why I couldn't answer earlier.

You probably figured I'm not Reformed theology neither, but I want you to know that I'm an official member of a PCA and they love me just the same - as we're supposed to. :-) Amen!

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/4/2 14:30

David's Throne is earthly, The Throne of God is Heavenly, where Jesus now sits, "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;" this is not David's Throne on earth which Christ will claim and make it His Own, when He returns with His Body the Church the resurrected saints of His catching away to the Father's House, and They and their Lord will rule and reign on the earthly throne of David, which Jesus will make His own and rule and reign for 1000 years over this earth, then in the second resurrection and second death. The rule from David's throne will be the earthly Israel, not the Heavenly Church the Body of Christ His own brothers and sisters by Birth of His Father's Seed, Incorruptable, His Body The birthed sons of God, The Bride Grooms wife, The Church, not the divorced wife of God, Israel, God's chosen people, son's of Israel, earthly remarried wife of God to the Father in the millennium, with Christ as their King on David's earthly throne.

Gaebelein's Annotated Bible, from Heb 1

The vast universe is the work of His hands and Jesus Christ Himself as very God is "the effulgence of all of the God Heads glory and the expression of His substance." He makes the invisible God visible. He is the perfect impress of God; God is fully revealed in His person who came from glory and dwelt among men. Furthermore, He is upholding all things by the Word of His power.

And He who was all this, and is all this, became man, appeared on earth, assuming manhood, to accomplish the work which He alone could do. By Himself He made purification of sins. The Son of God alone did this and none was with Him. What a blessed, sure, eternally secure foundation of our salvation! The passage shows the personal and perfect competency of the Son of God to effect this mighty work. It was done on the cross, in the death in which He glorified God and which has glorified Him forever. And therefore He arose from the dead and "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." It is significant that nothing is said in the text of His resurrection, in the sense as it is spoken of in other scriptures, that God raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory (1Pe 1:21). Nor is it said that He was told to sit down, but He sat down and took Himself the exalted place at the right hand of God. It is presented in this way because His character as Son is here in view. The place He has taken at the right hand of the Majesty on high is only proper and possible for a divine person. The fact that He took this place and sat down attests the perfection, the completeness and acceptance of the work He undertook and finished on the cross. He is now on the throne of God. David's throne and His own throne He will receive when as the First-Begotten He returns from the glory. Such is the Messiah, the Christ, promised to Israel; He is God, the creator and upholder of all things, the heir of all things, come down from heaven, in whom God spoke on earth and is still speaking from heaven, who made purification of sins and has gone back to heaven.

Constituted now heir of all things, destined according to God's eternal decrees to be head of all things, He, as the glorified Man, has "become so much better than the angels, as He hath by inheritance a name more excellent than they." The contrast between Him and angels is now made. The Epistle being addressed to Hebrews explains this comparison and contrast on Christ with angels. In the estimation of a Hebrew, next to Jehovah Himself, angels were looked upon as the highest and holiest beings. Then furthermore the law was given through angels (Ac 7:53; Ga 3:19), and other angelic ministrations had been prominent in Israel's history, so that these beings occupied a high place in the Jewish mind. But Christ

t, the man Christ Jesus, has become so much better than the angels; He is above the angels. His name is above every other name. He is on the right hand of the Majesty on high in the form and likeness of Man. As the Only-Begotten He is the creator of angels. In incarnation He was made a little lower than the angels, and now having finished the work for which He became man, He has received by inheritance that highest position and a more excellent name than angels. Into this wonderful place He takes His own people for whom He suffered and died. In Him all believers are above the angels. Angels are but servants, never said to occupy a throne, for they cannot reign. But Christ will have a throne on earth, David's throne which Jesus makes His own and His redeemed shall reign with Him for 1000 years.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2009/4/3 4:57

Michael,

"...and we reign as kings and priests with Him through faith."

I don't think this is exactly so yet: 1 Co 4:8, Luke 19:11 and onward.