



## Whose Son is He?

Christmas Day, December 25, 2022

**Holy Text: Matthew 22:41-46**

**Merry Christmas CRC! Let us praise the Incarnate Son!**

Readings for His Praise and Honor!

- Matthew 1:18-25
- Luke 2:8-21

### **Thoughts on our Text:**

**Matthew 22:41 (KJV) While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,**

- Since the our LORD's triumphal entry, we've read of multiple challenges and attempts at entrapment by Israel's leaders towards Him and Christ's subsequent answers, mostly in parables.
- Now, we see our LORD on the attack. He challenges THEM!
- Lesson: Be bold my friends!

**Matthew 22:42 (KJV) Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.**

- What a great question! The main issue here is the religious leaders' inability to recognize Who was among them.
- Christ is *Christos* in Greek (or *Mâshîyach* in Hebrew). It means "Anointed One."

Anointed, the Greek translation of the Hebrew word rendered "Messiah" (q.v.), the official title of our Lord, occurring five hundred and fourteen times in the New Testament. It denotes that he was anointed or consecrated to his great redemptive work as Prophet, Priest, and King of his people. He is Jesus the Christ ([Act 17:3](#); [Act 18:5](#); [Mat 22:42](#)), the Anointed One. He is thus spoken of by Isaiah ([Isa 61:1](#)), and by Daniel ([Dan 9:24-26](#)), who styles him "Messiah the Prince."

The Messiah is the same person as "the seed of the woman" ([Gen 3:15](#)), "the seed of Abraham" ([Gen 22:18](#)), the "Prophet like unto Moses" ([Deu 18:15](#)), "the priest after the order of Melchizedek" ([Psa 110:4](#)), "the rod out of the stem of Jesse" ([Isa 11:1](#), [Isa 11:10](#)), the "Immanuel," the virgin's son ([Isa 7:14](#)), "the branch of Jehovah" ([Isa 4:2](#)), and "the messenger of the covenant" ([Mal 3:1](#)). This is he "of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write." The Old Testament Scripture is full of prophetic declarations regarding the Great Deliverer and the work he was to accomplish. Jesus the Christ is Jesus the Great Deliverer, the Anointed One, the Saviour of men.

This name denotes that Jesus was divinely appointed, commissioned, and accredited as the Saviour of men ([Heb 5:4](#); [Isa 11:2-4](#); [Isa 49:6](#); [Joh 5:37](#); [Act 2:22](#)).

To believe that "Jesus is the Christ" is to believe that he is the Anointed, the Messiah of the prophets, the Saviour sent of God, that he was, in a word, what he claimed to be. This is to believe the gospel, by the faith of which alone men can be brought unto God. That Jesus is

the Christ is the testimony of God, and the faith of this constitutes a Christian ([1Co 12:3](#); [1Jn 5:1](#)).<sup>1</sup>

**Matthew 22:43-44 (KJV)** He saith unto them, **How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?**

- The Pharisees' answer, though technically correct<sup>2</sup>, is woefully incomplete. They did not understand the true nature of Christ and what He was sent to accomplish.
- Jesus corrects them using Psalms 110:

**Psalms 110:1 (KJV)** *A Psalm of David. The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

**Matthew 22:45 (KJV)** **If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?**

- The Pharisees still thought of the Messiah as an earthy King...a political leader. If this was the case, Israel's greatest King, David, would not have referred to Him as "my Lord."
- The two "Lords" in Ps 110:1 are God and His Son. The words in Hebrew are Jehovah and Âdôn respectively: The Self-existent/Eternal One...and the Master or Sovereign Lord.
- And this Master and "Lord" would sit at the right hand of God until His enemies are under His feet.

**Ephesians 1:20 (KJV)** *Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,*

**Hebrews 1:3 (KJV)** *Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;*

**Hebrews 10:12-13 (KJV)** *But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; 13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.*

- Friends, Christ is "the son of David" in His humanity, but is also the Son of Jehovah...the Son of God!

**Isaiah 7:14 (KJV)** *Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Matt 1:23)*

**Luke 1:35 (KJV)** *And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.*

**Matthew 17:5 (KJV)** *While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.*

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<sup>1</sup> Easton Bible Dictionary

<sup>2</sup> (The Messiah IS a descendant of King David. See the Davidic Covenant: 2 Sam 7:16, 23:5)

**1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)** *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*

- **Jesus Christ is the Theanthropos...the God-man!**
- “Jesus has two natures in one person (called the Hypostatic Union).<sup>3</sup> He is not half God, half man. He is fully God and fully man at the same time. At the Incarnation, He added a human nature to His divine nature for our sake. His natures are not mixed together; they are separate, yet act as a unit. He was born of a woman (Isa 7:14; Lk 1:31; Rom 1:3; Gal 4:4), had a human genealogy (Mt 1:1; Lk 3:23-37) and body (Matt 26:12; Lk 24:39; Jn 1:14), and the had common experiences of humanity, including sorrow (Matt 26:37), natural growth (Lk 2:40), hunger (Lk 4:2), and sleep (Lk 8:23).”
- Why is this so important?
  1. **In His perfect and sinless humanity, Christ fulfilled the keeping of God’s Law, making His sacrifice acceptable to God.**
  2. **In His Divinity, Christ’s sacrifice would be acceptable to God for all who would repent and believe.**
- **The identify of Christ and His perfect Work (holy life, sacrificial suffering and death, and glorious Resurrection) are the foundation of our Faith. His one-day return is our Hope!**
- **On Christmas, we are celebrating the breaking in not only of the Kingdom of God, but also the fulfillment of God’s redemptive promises beginning in the Garden! (Gen 3:15)**

**Matthew 22:46 (KJV)** *And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.*

- The religious leaders were again stumped. They stopped trying to trap Jesus’ with words and instead embarked upon more insidious methods as we read in later chapters: their silence turned to violence!
- Thought: Just because your enemies aren’t talking to you, doesn’t mean they aren’t working against you! Trust the LORD and be faithful!
- Mark adds this commentary:

**Mark 12:37 (KJV)** *David therefore himself calleth him Lord; and whence is he then his son? And the common people heard him gladly.*

- The prophet Micah said:

**Micah 5:2 (KJV)** *But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

- As we prayerfully and joyfully consider what this Day means, let us recommit to “hear Him gladly” as well. He is our Ruler. He is the Son of God and God the Son! He is the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world! (Jn 1:29) He is worthy of such happy obedience.

Amen!

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/hypostatic-union.html>