

June 24, 2018

Matthew 22:41-46

Whose Son is the Christ?

- Jesus responds to the Pharisees' questions with a question of His own.
- The Pharisees had refused to believe the Scriptural evidence that Jesus was the Messiah, endowed with Divine Authority to do what He did. In fact, they considered the Messiah to be a mere man who would be used by God as their deliver, like Moses.
- Jesus' question went to the heart of the issue of His Messianic role and authority.
- *"The son of David."* Their answer reflected the association of the Christ as God's promise that the son of King David would reign over an everlasting Israelite kingdom (**2 Sam. 7:12-13**).
- They rejected any notion that this Messiah would have the Divine authority to cleanse the Temple. Only the consecrated High Priest had the Divine authority to do what Jesus did (**Deut. 8 & Lev. 16**).
- Who was the real adversary and opposition to Jesus? Satan.

Is. 14:13-14 You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God. I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

- Then Satan's opposition to God's purpose for humanity is recorded in Gen. 3 and continues throughout the O.T. as he wages a cosmic battle against the purpose of God in His Messiah/Son.
 - This is the same cosmic battle that was being waged in Matt. 2 with Herod's attempt to kill Mary's Son.
 - This is the same cosmic battle that was being waged in Matt. 4.
 - This is the same cosmic battle that was being waged in Matt. 16.
 - And this great cosmic battle will reach its zenith in the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus' decision.

Luke 22:42 ...not My will but Yours be done...

- Now that these leaders have answered that the Christ is David's son, Jesus is ready to catch them in their rejection.
- **Ps. 110** is probably the most significant of the Messianic Psalms being referenced in the New Testament more often than any other (Acts 2:34–35; Hebrews 1:13; 5:6, 10; 7:17, 21).
- In this Psalm, the twin offices of King [v. 1-3] and High Priest [v. 4] are united into one Man, the Messiah.
- If the Messiah is a mere man, a son of David, as they supposed, why does David proclaim His divinity calling him Lord?

- YHWH confers upon David's Lord the Divine Right to sit at His Right Hand, the place of highest authority, in order to rule over his enemies as promised to David's son in **2 Sam. 7**.
- Therefore, since the Christ is David's Royal Son, He will fulfill the dual roles of King and Priest that Moses prefigured when he was authorized to construct the Tabernacle and to give the regulations for its use (Ex. 25-31; 35-40).