

WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST? WHOSE SON IS HE?
BY ELDER KENNETH DAVIS
LESSON: HEBREWS 1:1-14, TEXT MATTHEW 22:42

First, let us define the word “think” – to produce or form in the mind, conceive mentally, to examine in the mind, to determine by reasoning, to think a plan through, to believe, consider or form an opinion by reason. This comes from an old dictionary.

We see the word “think” is a very broad word.

We need to see who Christ asked these questions.

This was during the later part of His public ministry.

These Pharisees had probably been with Christ earlier.

Matthew is the only writer who records these two questions that are in our texts.

I want to keep the Lord Jesus Christ on our minds. Let us keep him in our preaching also.

In our lesson, the writer (being Paul) gives us the superiority of Christ over the prophets and angels.

In Hebrews 1:1, we are told that "God spoke in times past unto the fathers by the prophets."

This does not place Christ in a lower position than the prophets.

God, being a sovereign God, could choose to use the prophet age to present Christ and they did just that too.

I am speaking today to people who are well read in the word of God. You well know the prophets could see the coming of Christ. They lifted Him up and placed Him on a much higher level than themselves.

This is what Jesus said about John the Baptist in Luke 7:28, "Among those that are born of woman, there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist."

Now notice what John the Baptist thought of Christ.

In Matthew 3:11, John said Christ was mightier than him. He also said whose shoes I am not worthy to bear. Luke 3:16, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose.

In John 3:30, we have John the Baptist placing himself as one who would decrease but Christ as one who would increase.

In John 3:31, we find John the Baptist saying these words, "He that cometh from above is above all. He that is of the earth is earthly." John was earthly. So are we. We must understand this. We speak the things of the earth. So did all those before us. We are limited. When we fail to see Christ's glory in the mirror of God's word, we limit ourselves even more.

I would invite you to study what a wonderful testimony of the immeasurable superiority of the Lord of glory. This is found in John 3:25-36.

Notice what Jesus said about John the Baptist in Matthew 11:11, "Verily I say unto you, among them that are born of women, there has not risen a greater than John the Baptist." No doubt, John was a great man, fulfilling God's purpose, but nowhere was he ever near as great as our Lord Jesus Christ.

In John 3:35, John the Baptist said these words, "The father loveth the Son, and hath given all things unto his hand."

He was the beloved Son of the Father. The Father placed all things into the Son's hand. In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the God head bodily. Colossians 2:9

Can you imagine how far from knowing the fullness of Christ the shepherds were when they looked upon the babe that was there in Bethlehem?

Those hands had created the woman who had given birth to Him. He had divided the sea for His people Israel to pass through. A wonder of wonders was He – that voice that cried that night. He was the voice that spoke to Moses at the burning bush. He said unto Moses, “thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I am hath sent me unto you.”

I have given you some places in the Old Testament where I believe Christ appears. But we do not find Him suffering His death and His resurrection in these places.

He must be born in the likeness of sinful flesh but without sin. His birth must be at God's timing, Galatians 4:4. He was to be made of a woman or the seed of a woman, made under the law, that we might be redeemed from the power of the law. Only this could be accomplished by His death and resurrection.

In Hebrews 1:3, this statement is found, “when he by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high.”

This word “purged” means remove. Our sins must be removed before we can see God. Blessed is the pure in heart for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8

We never see God without seeing the Lord Jesus Christ.

Phillip said unto Christ, “show us the father.” John 14:8. Notice Christ's answer, “He that hath seen me hath seen the father.”

There were many who saw the fleshly body of Christ but never saw him spiritually. They thought they knew God. Oh, how far they were from the kingdom.

Jesus told Nicodemus, "except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Whose son is he, asked Christ. These men were supposed to be bible scholars. Is it possible today for people to be scholars of the word and not know Christ spiritually? I say yes.

In Matthew 16, Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I the son of man am?" This is a very important question.

He was the son of man. He was man. He was God. Not part of each. Complete man and God.

In Luke 18, we have the record of a blind man recognizing Christ as the son of David or the son of man and also the son of God. See Luke 18:35-43.

In Luke 18:41, Jesus asked him, "What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?" Notice the answer he gave Christ, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." He used the same word that Thomas used in John 20:28 when Thomas answered Christ and said "My Lord and my God."

Paul tells us in Philippians 2:9 that God has highly exalted him (that is Christ) and given him a name which is above every name.

Just think of the great men and women in the history of the world. But they don't hold a light to Jesus.

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow. This is encouragement for us today. The one we are serving today, the world doesn't recognize, but He is still Lord.

He is still Lord and master as He was when He washed the disciple's feet. He asked them that night, "Know ye what I have done to you?" John 13:12. Do we know what He has done for us? Do we know what He is doing for us? Do we know what He is going to do for us? He is our Lord and Master. When we recognize that He is our Lord, then He will give us words to say. They will be words fitly spoken and apples of gold in pitchers of silver. Proverbs 25:11