

Stories of Christmas

Psalms Tell About Jesus - Exaltation

Psalms

Opening

Gathering: What evidences have you seen that Jesus is God?

Today's Focus: Hundreds of years before Jesus came, God revealed how He would exalt the Messiah to His right hand by sending His righteous Son, Jesus, who was fully God.

Key Verses: *God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
Philippians 2:9-11

The Lord (Yahweh) says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand..." Psalm 110:1

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Exaltation - Jesus is God (*Philippians 2:9-11*)

What did last week's lesson from Isaiah tell us about Jesus?

Philippians 2:5-8

What does today's lesson from Psalms tell us about Jesus?

Philippians 2:9-11

How does John begin his gospel that points out the divinity of Jesus?

John 1:1-3

What was this *Word*?

John 1:14a

How did Jesus try to make it clear to Philip that He was God?

John 14:9

Psalm 2 - *Jesus the King*

How does this song say the promised Messiah would be received by the world?

Psalm 2:1-3

Did the disciples understand this was God's plan when they encountered opposition?

Acts 4:25-29

How does God react to threats against the completion of His plan?

Psalm 2:4-6

What is Zion?

Hebrews 12:22-23

Did Jesus recognize His calling to be exalted as God's King on Zion?

John 18:36

How does Jesus describe His exaltation in this Psalm?

Psalm 2:7-9

What events of His exaltation are Jesus referring to in verse 7?

Matthew 3:16-17

Matthew 17:2-3, 5

How does God the Spirit then convince the world of its sin and guide it to truth?

Psalm 2:10-12

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Psalm 16 - *A Prayer of the Messiah*

How does the Messiah begin His prayer to the Father?

Psalm 16:1-2

How does the Messiah feel about the people in this world He was sent into?

Psalm 16:3-4

Did Jesus sense any exaltation through the people the Father had given to Him?

John 17:9-10

How does the Messiah recognize His role in bringing His people into the new Promised Land?

Psalm 16:5-6

How was the Messiah's role similar to that of the Levites who were given no land inheritance?

Numbers 18:20

How did the Messiah feel about the suffering He would undergo in saving His people?

Psalm 16:7-11

How did Peter use this verse on Pentecost to prove that Jesus was the Messiah?

Acts 2:22-32

Psalm 110 - *The Exalted King-Priest Messiah*

How does David begin this song with a verse that confused the Jews?

Psalm 110:1

How did Peter use this verse in the continuation of his Pentecost speech?

Acts 2:33-37

How did Jesus better use this verse in explaining how He was both God and man?

Matthew 22:41-46

How does this Psalm show Jesus as God's mighty King?

Psalm 110:2-3

How does Peter describe this kingdom?

1 Peter 2:9

How does this great King protect His kingdom?

Psalm 110:5-7

How is God's *Anointed One* also considered His Priest?

Psalm 110:4

Who was Melchizedek?

Hebrews 7:1-2, 4

What is the point of Jesus as a great priest in the order of Melchizedek?

Hebrews 7:11-12, 15-19

How long will this new covenant last?

Hebrews 7:20-24

Why is this permanent priesthood important to us?

Hebrews 7:25

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Psalm 118 - *His Love Endures Forever*

What is the obvious theme of this Psalm?

Psalm 118:1-4

What does this theme mean for our everyday lives?

Psalm 118:5-16

What was Martin Luther's personal motto and why should we also learn it?

Psalm 118:17

What should we remember during tough times?

Psalm 118:18-21

How does this song of praise explain how God has given us salvation?

Psalm 118:22-23

Who were the builders that rejected Jesus?

Matthew 21:42-45

What prophecies of Isaiah also point to Jesus as God's exalted and precious rock?

1 Peter 2:4-8

Knowing what God has done for us, how should we approach each day?

Psalm 118:24

What other great reminders of God's love do we have in this Psalm?

Psalm 118:25-29

Creeds, Our Statements of Faith

Nicene Creed - Speaks to the Divinity of Jesus

Apostles' Creed - Speaks to the Humanity of Jesus

Humbled Himself as man (steps down)

was conceived by the Holy Spirit

(Luke 1:35)

born of the virgin Mary

(Matthew 1:23)

suffered under Pontius Pilate

(John 18:28...)

was crucified

(John 19:18)

died and was buried

(John 19:30, 42)

Exalted in victory over the grave (steps up)

He descended into hell

(Eph 4:8-10, 1 Peter 3:19-20)

the third day He rose again from the dead

(Matthew 28:1-10)

He ascended into heaven

(Luke 24:50-51)

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty

(Eph 1:19-22)

from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead

(John 5:28-30)

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Jesus - Both God and Man

How much of God is in Jesus?

Colossians 2:9 (also 1:19)

Why was it important for Jesus to be fully God?

Matthew 11:25-27

Matthew 1:23

Why was it important for Jesus to be man?

Hebrews 2:14-15

Was Jesus just God in man's clothing or fully man?

Hebrews 2:17-18

Luke 2:7

The Full Powers of Humanity

What did people who saw Jesus raised as a child think about his powers?

Matthew 13:54-56

Did Jesus have these powers because He was God?

Matthew 17:18-21

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. What things have I exalted above Him who is in the highest place?
(Philippians 2:9a; Matthew 6:19-24; 10:37; 19:21-24; Ephesians 1:19-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4)
2. When have I despised or abused the name that is above all names?
(Philippians 2:9b; Exodus 20:7; Psalm 29:2; Malachi 1:6-8; Matthew 5:33-37; Luke 11:2; Hebrews 1:4)
3. In what ways have I bowed my knee to the name of Jesus?
(Philippians 2:10a; 1 Kings 19:18; Psalm 95:6-7; Luke 5:8; Romans 14:8-12; Ephesians 3:14-21)
4. How have I helped spread the name of Jesus on earth?
(Philippians 2:10b; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 5:18-20; Luke 9:1-6; Acts 8:4; Colossians 4:5-6; 2 Thessalonians 3:1)
5. How do I confess and reveal that Jesus Christ is Lord of my life?
(Philippians 2:11; Matthew 7:15-23; John 12:42-43; Romans 10:8-15; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 1 Peter 3:15; Hebrews 13:15)

Next Week - *Jesus Fulfills Old Testament Prophecy* (Matthew)

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Our Statements of Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
The Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried;
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand
of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to
judge both the living and the dead
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian
and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
The Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ,
His only Son,
our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again
from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty.

From thence he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.