

HC Q&A 50-51– A Display and Deployment of Christ Power and Glory

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: The North Koreans wanted to show their power so they test-launched missiles over Japan. They likely weren't trying to kill anyone but they want to give a visual. This visual, they hoped, would put fear in the Japanese and alter their behavior. China did something similar when they sent one of its warships very close to Taiwanese waters. They did not fire on Taiwan, but they wanted Taiwan to see their power and stop talking about independence. Words are great but visuals are important.

Today you will see the most remarkable visual in the universe. You will see Jesus sitting on the throne in heaven. From there his power and glory put fear into the hearts of his enemies and give confidence and comfort to his people.

Our headings are:

Christ's Power and Glory Displayed

Christ's Power and glory Deployed

Our goals are: That you will learn that since the Lord is seated and ruling in heaven, from where he sends all the gifts you need, you can confidently go about your work on earth.

Christ's Power and Glory Displayed

50 Q. WHY THE NEXT WORDS: "AND SITTETH AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD"?

A. Christ ascended to heaven, there to show that he is head of his church, and that the Father rules all things through him.

1. Jesus sitting in heaven at the right hand of God the Father which means he is the ruling head of the church.

He is preeminent. He is not a puppet king! This visual confirmed what he said on earth and what the Apostle said!

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Colossians 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Ephesians 1:20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church...

Jesus is now in Adam's place. He is head of the world. The Pope is not the head of Christ's church. The Queen is not the head of Christ's church. President Biden is not the most powerful person in the world.

The Apostle Paul heard him speak from heaven directly to him.

Acts 9:3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

The martyr Stephen saw Jesus sitting at the right hand of the Father.

Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

And no one is a ruler without the power to judge. Jesus has all power to judge.

2. Jesus, who is sitting in heaven at the right hand of God the Father in glory and power, is conquering.

In Revelation, he is again pictured as sitting on his throne in royal robes, and riding out on his white horse with white clothes to conquer the nations.

Revelation 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Because of his work of conquering the nations, you see his clothes dripping in blood. This why we sing:

“Conquering now and still to conquer, rideth a king in his might.” Zechariah 1, etc. shows the same thing. **His bloody clothes are not literal, but figurative.** His Sword, the Bible, wounds men’s hearts and make them surrender.

Acts 2:34 "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "**Sit at My right hand, 35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.**" **The king is conquering through his people’s preaching.**

3. This picture of the ruler and conqueror in his power and glory must make you honor Christ by your doctrine and life.

You, the church, and every government of every nation on earth are bound to obey Jesus and must bend the knee to him. Everyone must stand in wonder of His majesty. **If you don’t bend the knee, he will break it.**

John 5:22 "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 "that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

What a message this is for today’s political leaders—those who think sports and wine stores are important but not singing and worship! They lock up healthy people in their homes. They tell us that we must affirm any of 72 genders and validate those who want to change their genders God assigned to them!

4. This picture of the ruler and conqueror in his power and glory must make you evangelize.

Are your clothes dripping with blood? The more you tell others about Jesus, the bloodier your clothes will be! Are you wounding people’s hearts with the convicting Word of God? **Do you know the Sword of God well enough to use it to get to their hearts?** Or are you ashamed to witness for Jesus?

5. This picture of the ruler and conqueror in his power and glory must make you prepare for judgment.

Remember, those who do not submit to his rule will be destroyed, even as Israel and Judah were.

Psalms 73:16 When I thought how to understand this, It was too painful for me—17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; **Then I understood their end. 18 Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction. 19 Oh, how they are brought to desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors.**

6. This picture of the ruler and conqueror in his power and glory must make you patient.

Don’t worry if you don’t see the wicked converted now. It is coming.

Christ’s Power and Glory Deployed

51 Q. HOW DOES THIS GLORY OF CHRIST OUR HEAD BENEFIT US?

A. First, through his Holy Spirit he **pours out his gifts** from heaven upon us his members. Second, by his power he **defends us and keeps** us safe from all enemies.

1. Your ruling king, rich in his power and glory, pours out all the gifts you need from heaven to serve him.

(Nothing is worse than to have an army ill-equipped to do the task you set for them. Ask Napoleon about his failures in Russia!)

Anyone who is a member of Messiah’s kingdom can count on these gifts...

Acts 2:33 "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, **He poured out this which you now see and hear.**

And remember, the **gifts of the Holy Spirit were poured out...not dribbled out.**

2. The pouring out of the gifts was pictured by Apostle Paul, quoting the Psalmist.

The Lord was compared to a king returning from conquering nations and then showering his people with the spoils of war. (Psalm 68)

Ephesians 4:7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. 8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." 9 (Now this, "He ascended" —what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who

ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

God kept his 1000-year-old promise to give gifts to men to do the task he gave them.

3. These gifts are poured out on all Christians so they are equipped to conquer the world.

Christ's physical body could not be in many places at the same time, but his Spirit is in every believer. **So every believer can go out under the banner of Christ to preach truth.** Before Jesus went up to heaven, he commanded his disciples to go into all the world and preach the Gospel and make disciples of all the nations. The Father gave him the nations.

Psalm 2:8 Ask of Me, and **I will give You The nations for Your inheritance,** And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

The best way to conquer the enemy is to change his heart! The Lord does this as well!

4. And while you labor for the King, you also know your king, who is mighty in power and glory, destroys his enemies, keeping you safe in the process.

(God works, you work.)

John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.** 29 "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. 30 "I and My Father are one."

Being in the Lord's hands is the safest place to be.

5. And when all is said and done, your bodies will be transformed into glorious bodies - free from all pain and suffering of this life.

Philippians 3:20 For **our citizenship is in heaven,** from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Conclusion:

Jesus predicted he would go back to heaven. His disciples saw him go to heaven. The angels from heaven confirmed he went back to heaven. Steven and the Apostle Paul attested by their own experience that he was in heaven. He is now **at God's right hand with all glory and power,** continuing the work of **conquering the world through his Word and Spirit,** through his people.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus:

1. You must not fear! Jesus is sitting at the Father's right hand, and he disperses gifts to live and serve him.

2. You must cry out God's Words to the world: Be still and know that I am God! You must cry out to the nations that they must kiss the son lest He be angry with them and destroy them! Yes, in Sudan there are some 100,000 Christians in slavery. Yes, in Canada the tyranny of liberalism and secular humanism are threatening your freedom. Yes, Islam is rising in fury against God's people. Yes, the government made immoral restrictions on worship. Yes, the Middle East is filled with the fury of Ishmael and Esau. Yes, Christians all over the world are being attacked. But Christ rules. **So don't be afraid to speak. This is how Christ will conquer.**

3. Look at your clothes! Are they covered in blood...not literally, but symbolically? Are you wounding the hearts of men, women, boys and girls with the Gospel?

Finally, if you are not a Christian, let Christ conquer you. His yoke is easy and his burden light. Don't let him destroy you. These are your only two options to consider.