

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 12/6-7/2021 *Matthew Chapter 22*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies - www.ptwente.com

OPENING PRAYER

Matthew Chapter 22

The Parable of the Wedding Feast – (vs. 1-14); The Pharisees: Is It Lawful to Pay Taxes to Caesar? - (vs. 15-22); The Sadducees: What About the Resurrection? – (vs. 23-33); The Scribes: Which is the First Commandment of All? – (vs. 34-40); Jesus: How Can David Call His Descendant Lord? – (vs. 41-46).

We are in the final week leading up to the crucifixion. We could entitle Matthew Chapter 22, “The Gathering Storm!” The momentum is building. The die has been cast. The religious leaders have determined that Jesus must die. He is a threat to their job security. They have determined that the only solution is to get rid of Him. In chapter 22, we see the growing controversy, which will, more or less, culminate in His scathing denunciation of them in chapter 23. From that point on, the plot to put Him to death, the determination has been made and now they are carrying out the plot, until we find Him hanging on the cross in chapter 27. In this chapter, Jesus will continue the parables.

The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Mat 22:1 *And Jesus answered and spoke to them again* (still addressing the chief priests and elders) *by parables and said:*

Mat 22:2 *"The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,*

- **In this parable, the king is God, and the Son is Jesus Christ.** The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who planned a wedding.

Mat 22:3 *and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.*

Mat 22:4 *Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."'*

Mat 22:5 *But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.*

Mat 22:6 *And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them.*

- **Now the invited guest was the Jewish nation.** They were the ones to whom the promises were given, the promise of the Messiah. But they rejected Him. In the previous parable, Jesus talked about the Stone which the builders rejected, who had become the Chief Cornerstone. And they rejected the invitation to the marriage.

Mat 22:7 *But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.*

- **Another prophecy of Jesus of the coming destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. by the Roman armies** under Vespasian, the emperor, and Titus, who was the field general. How that the city of Jerusalem was destroyed and burned. Here is the prophecy of it.

Mat 22:8 *Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.*

Mat 22:9 *Therefore go into the highways, and as many* (all those who you find) *as you find, invite to the wedding.'*

- **Go and take the Gospel out to the Gentiles, to as many as you find,** or to all those who you will find, whoever will listen. Invite them to come.

Mat 22:10 *So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

Mat 22:11 *"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.*

Mat 22:12 *So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.*

- **The wedding garment is the righteousness of Christ, which is absolutely essential for salvation, and is supplied to all who believe.** (**Rom 3:21-22**) *But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; [22] Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:* All are required to have a wedding garment!

Mat 22:13 *Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

Mat 22:14 *"For many* (a great number) *are called, but few are chosen* (*eklektos* - elected, selected)."

- **The interpretation of it is quite obvious.** The Jews have rejected Jesus as their Messiah. He is to be presented to the world. The world is invited to come, to be a part of this glorious wedding. They went out and gathered in many. The King came in to greet the guests. He saw one that did not have on a wedding garment. There is only one way by which we can enter into the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom of heaven is like unto a king, who is prepared a wedding for his son. There is only one way we can enter in, and that is through the merits of Jesus Christ.
- **We read in the book of Revelation, the bride made herself ready.** (**Rev 19:7-8**) *Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."*
- [8] *And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.* She was adorned in fine linen, pure and clean. The fine linen is the righteousness of the saints. But the righteousness of the saints is a righteousness that God imputes to us

through our faith in Jesus Christ. In this parable, it is a warning to those who would seek to enter the kingdom of God apart from Jesus Christ. A warning to those who would dress themselves in the robes of their own works, their own righteousness. We are warned in the scriptures of how unacceptable our righteous deeds are in the sight of God. Isaiah tells us, *(Isa 64:6) But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.*

- **Paul the apostle, spoke about the righteousness that he once had according to the law.** He said he was blameless. But those things which were gain to him--that is, his obedience and adherence to the Mosaic law--he counted loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ. He said in *(Php 3:8-11) Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; [10] that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, [11] if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*
- **There are many who have come to the wedding feast.** *“Many are called but few are chosen.”* Those that are chosen are those that are robed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, those that are trusting in Him and relying upon Him.
- **It seems rather sad that a person would actually respond to the invitation to come, but still not be accepted because he came on the wrong basis.** Many times, we make a great mistake in appealing to people to come to Jesus Christ for all of the rewards and the benefits that they might enjoy. Is your life all disturbed? Are you upset, not knowing what to do? Well, Jesus can bring you peace. And they come for the benefits, rather than recognizing that I am a hopeless and helpless sinner, in need of help. But repentance is so necessary. Many have never really repented of their sin. They continue in their deeds of unrighteousness, though they have added the dimension to their life of Sunday attendance in church. But it has not really had any effect in the transforming of their lives. They do not have the wedding garments. They are not clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Thus, when the time comes and judgment is made, they will not enter into the kingdom but will be cast into what Jesus described as *“outer darkness.”*
- **Outer darkness. A total darkness, completely away from light and anything godly – His love, grace or mercy!** It could be that that is where God has destined for those who love darkness rather than light, that eternally they will be in the abyss of darkness. As Jesus said, *outer darkness*, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. What a fitting kind of a penalty for those who do not love life. If you love darkness rather than life, God says, all right, we will put you into outer darkness. But they will discover, putting it mildly, that that is not so good.

Paying Taxes to Caesar

Mat 22:15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk.

- **The Pharisees plotted against Him.** They realized that Jesus was really getting to them. We have to do something. We have to trip Him up somehow. He has strong public appeal. The people think He is a prophet. They are following Him. They are entranced by Him. We have to somehow catch Him. We need to catch Him in His speech. We need to get Him to answer questions that will split His popularity. So, that regardless of which side He chooses, He will lose the support of the other side of those following Him. Were Saul of Tarsus, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea there?

Mat 22:16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men.

- **They did not have the courage to come themselves, but they sent their disciples, with the Herodians.** The Herodians and the Pharisees were bitter enemies. They were constantly in controversy with each other. The basic kind of conflict lay in the fact that the Pharisees were strong nationalists, hating the Roman government, believing that they should at the first opportunity, rebel against Rome. They chafed under the Roman rule. The Herodians were Jews who had found it profitable to be under the Roman rule. They advocated the cooperating with Rome, because they had received positions of power and authority by the Roman government.
- **There was this bitter controversy between the Herodians and the Pharisees,** but it is amazing how a common enemy can unite men who are otherwise at odds with each other. They are united now in their opposition of Jesus. The two representative groups got together, and they had formed a question that they figured would catch Him. It was a Catch 22, kind of question. The **Pharisees advocated not paying taxes.** The **Herodians advocated that you should pay taxes.** So, they came together, both needing to be

thee, to Jesus with the idea of, settling this controversy between us.

- **They came with really slimy, flattering words.** *Teacher we know that You are true.* In other words, you are not intimidated by man, you're a square shooter. You are not afraid of man's opinion. You are going to tell what is right, what is true. This kind of acknowledgment of Jesus, of course, was hypocritical. They were trying to set Him up for the question.

Mat 22:17 Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay (didomi, to give) taxes to Caesar, or not (one or the other)?"

- **If He says no**, it is not lawful to pay tribute to Caesar, the Herodians will rush right down to the Roman government and say there is a rabbi that is formed an opposition to the tax program. He is speaking against Rome. They will accuse Him of treason against Roman rule. On the other hand, if He says yes, it is lawful, you ought to pay your taxes, then all of the Jews will turn against Him because they all hated paying taxes to Rome. They thought they had him in a dilemma. He cannot say yes! He cannot say no!

Mat 22:18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites?"

- **Jesus perceived their wickedness. He caught on!** You tried to trap Me, haven't you? You are really not looking for an answer. You are looking for a controversy. There are a lot of questions that people ask that are not honest questions. They really do not want an answer. They want an argument. They want you to express your opinion on an issue. Then, they are going to argue with you. Their questions are designed to stir up an argument. This was a question that was designed to stir up an argument. They were not looking for a real answer. They are going to hold to their positions no matter what He says, but they figure that He will lose half of His support anyhow.

Mat 22:19 Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius.

- **But Jesus said, Show Me the tax money.** They had what they call the poll tax, which called for a payment of a Roman *denarius*. Jesus said, show Me your tax money. They gave Him a *denarius*.

Mat 22:20 And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?"

- **On the Roman *denarius* at the time of Christ, they had a superscription of Caesar.** There is a wreath over his head. On the opposite side of the coin, they have Pontifex Maximus, the Maximus, or the ultimate ruler. Jesus held it up to them, saying whose image and superscription is this? It was Caesar's. Tiberius Caesar, there was the inscription.

Mat 22:21 They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render (apodidomi – to give back, recompence) therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and (give back) to God the things that are God's."

- **He does not give them a yes or no answer as they anticipated.** He said, "**Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's.** Render to Caesar what bears Caesar's image. So, pay your tax money. There is nothing wrong with that.
- **And to God the things that are God's.** Whose image do we bear? Give to Caesar what bears his image. But give your life to the One whose image you bear! We bear the image of God. He created us in His image in our DNA! Man was created in the image of God! We are never to give to government or to man, what belongs only to God. That is our lives!" So, pay your taxes to Caesar, but never give Caesar your life. Give your time! Your life, heart, mind, soul and strength to the One whose image you bear!

Mat 22:22 When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.

- **Even Jesus' enemies had to marvel on how He has turned their divisive question** to one of avoiding division and instead, turning the answer to their question to one including teaching, which the people needed to hear.

Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection

Mat 22:23 The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him,

Mat 22:24 saying: "Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.

- **Under the Mosaic law and even before that, we find an example of this.** Going all the way back to Genesis, with Judah and Tamar. The son of Judah married Tamar. He died without having any children. His brother took Tamar. He died without having any children. This practice of the Levirate marriage was incorporated into the Mosaic law. (*Deu 25:5*) "*If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the widow of the dead man shall not be married to a stranger outside the family; her husband's brother shall go in to her, take her as his wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her.* It is still

practiced today among the Bedouins, and other groups. The family is sort of kept intact. The family possessions are kept intact that way. Under the Mosaic law, it was incorporated there. If a man takes a wife, dies without having any children, then the brother takes the wife, to raise up a son who is named after the dead brother. This brother who takes the dead brother's place was called the "goel," the kinsman redeemer. He then becomes the heir of the family possessions.

- **Under the law, there was an out. It was sort of an honorable thing that was supposed to be done.** There is another case in the Old Testament concerning Onan, who refused to do it and was slain of the Lord, because of his refusal to do this honorable thing. It was considered the honorable, the right thing to do. But you were not actually forced to do it. Under the law, if you did not want to do it, you would come to the elders, the judges, and you would say, I do not want her. No way, she gave my brother a bad time. I was around, I saw how she reacted. It is like, You are a dirty shoe, and I am not interested in you, which, of course, was an insulting thing. (*Deu 25:9-10*) *then his brother's wife shall come to him in the presence of the elders, remove his sandal from his foot, spit in his face, and answer and say, 'So shall it be done to the man who will not build up his brother's house.'* [10] *And his name shall be called in Israel, 'The house of him who had his sandal removed.'* In some cases, it was probably better to be spit in the face than to marry her. But then, though, you did receive a dirty title.
- **Now these fellows are making up a really ridiculous, hypothetical case.** It is intended to be an argument that shows absurdity. Thus, trying to prove the point by making a ridiculous kind of a situation.

Mat 22:25 Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother.

Mat 22:26 Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh.

- **One wonders why the police did not examine the coffee** she was giving to her husbands.

Mat 22:27 Last of all the woman died also.

- **She must have drunk** her own coffee!

Mat 22:28 Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her."

- **They seemed to have stated a hypothetical case as difficult as possible,** thinking that though no such case had ever occurred, yet it was possible. It their view it presented a real difficulty.
- **The difficulty arose from the fact, that they erroneously supposed** that the same state of things must take place in the other world as here. So, that if there is such a world, husbands and wives must be reunited there. They professed not to be able to see how one woman could be the wife of seven men!

Mat 22:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.

- **You do err! You are mistaken, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.** In not believing in the resurrection, they did not know the scriptures. The scriptures definitely teach the resurrection. In not believing the resurrection, **they did not know the power of God,** Paul tells us of the resurrection in (*1Co 15:35-38*) *But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?" [36] Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. [37] And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain. [38] But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body. We will have a resurrection body! I am looking for a new body, a building of God not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*
- **Reincarnation by Wallace McRae** - (this is a humorous example of erring regarding the resurrection!) Wallace McRae has given permission to use it on the web page. Have fun!

What is reincarnation? A cowboy asked his friend. It starts, his old friend told him, when your life comes to an end. They wash your neck and comb your hair and clean your fingernails. And put you in a padded box away from life's travails.

The box and you goes in a hole that's been dug in the ground. Reincarnation starts in when you're planted neath that mound. Them clods melt down, just like the box, and you who is inside. And that's when you begin your transformation ride.

And in a while the grass will grow upon your rendered mound, Until some day, upon that spot, a lonely flower is found. And then a horse may wander by and graze upon that flower That once was you, and now has become your vegetated bower.

Now, the flower that the horse done eat, along with his other feed, Makes bone and fat and muscle essential to the steed. But there's a part that he can't use and so it passes through. And there it lies upon the ground, this thing that once was you.

And if perchance, I should pass by and see this on the ground, I'll stop awhile and ponder at this object that I've found. I'll think about Reincarnation and life and death and such, And come away concluding, why, you ain't changed all that much.

Mat 22:30 *For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.*

- **Neither marrying nor giving in marriage but are like the angels of God.** That upsets some people. The idea that there is no marriage or giving in marriage in heaven. There are couples that have had a great relationship who feel that having enjoyed such a close marriage relationship here on earth, they cannot picture joy apart from the family and those relationships and so forth. But they have not considered the power of God and you do not know the scriptures. Actually, there will be such a glorious relationship with all, with the whole family of God, that the relationships that we have there will be superior to anything we could ever experience here on the human level!
- **But are like angels of God in heaven.** He is not saying that they are angels, but that we will be like angels in that we will not marry in heaven. In other words, in heaven there will not be any necessity to continue the race by means of birth. This does not mean that a husband and wife who were very close down here cannot be together in heaven. If they want to be together, of course they can be together. But, my friend, think of the ones who wouldn't want to be together. They won't have to be together. However, they both will have new dispositions, and probably they will get along much better up there than they did down here!

Mat 22:31 *But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, (Mar 12:26a) But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the burning bush passage, how God spoke to him?*

Mat 22:32 *'I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.'*

- **God declared this to Moses, (Exo 3:6)** *Moreover He said, "I am (not, I was!) the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.*
- **He got them! By quoting this verse, Jesus gave the Sadducees this message:** God is the God of the living! If Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob did not live on in resurrection, then God would say that He was the God of Abraham, instead of saying "I am the God of Abraham." Heaven is real!
- **This is an amazing statement!** What about those who have gone before? What about Abraham today? He is just as much Abraham today as he ever was. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob have been simply transferred from earth to another place. They are not dead; they are alive! This true of your loved ones who are in Christ and are waiting in heaven for you. This is a glorious truth!

Mat 22:33 *And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching.*

- **God used the errors in understanding the Scriptures in some** to inform and build up others, even though the intent of the Sadducees' question was only to trap and damage Jesus. If no false doctrine had been brought up, we had not seen the full evidence of the true teaching. Truth always gains by being opposed.

The Great Commandment

Mat 22:34 *But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together.*

- **The issue of this dispute.** The Sadducees were *silenced*, shaken out of their place and put to shame. They thought by their subtle scheming, to put Christ to shame, when, actually, Jesus turned that to preparing shame for themselves!

Mat 22:35 *Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying,*

Mat 22:36 *"Teacher, which (of which sort?) is the great commandment in the law?"*

- **It would seem that this lawyer** (really an expert in the Mosaic Law), **may have had a true interest in the opinion of Jesus.** The rabbis said that there were 613 commandments of the law. There were 365 of them that were negative. "Thou shalt not, don't do this or that! 248 of them were positive. Thou shalt do this and thou shalt do that!" It would be impossible to keep all 600 plus, so that there were those that were more important than others. It seemed important to keep the more important laws. But could you sort of slide on some of the others? Were there degrees of sin, that some are worse than others?
- **The attorney seems somewhat to be asking Jesus sincerely.** We find in Mark's account of this that when Jesus saw his response to the answer that Jesus gave him, He saw how carefully He responded. (**Mar 12:34**) *Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of*

God." But after that no one dared question Him. Jesus said to the attorney that you are close to the kingdom. You are getting there. You are getting the idea. We need to remember this when sharing with unbelievers. Just plant the seed. They can hear Jesus say, (*Joh 6:37*) *All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.*

Mat 22:37 Jesus said to him, 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART' (this is first; the heart drives our being, not our intellect or our emotion. The heart's needs can only be filled by God!) **WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.**'

Mat 22:38 This is the first and great commandment.

- **Mark tells us that He started out with The Shema. (*Deu 6:4-5*)** "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one (echad – a compound unity!) [5] You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. In other words, your love for God must be supreme! It must exceed all other loves in your life. This is what He wants! Vertically loving Him and horizontally, loving your neighbor! We cannot be commanded to love, we are only responders. (*1Jn 4:10*) *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Mat 22:39 And the second is like it: 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF' (just the way you already love yourself).

- **Notice that He did not pick any one of the Ten Commandments.** He gives them a second one, just as we see repeated 8 times throughout the Bible. (*Lev 19:18*) *You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. (*Rom 13:9b*) and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."* (*Gal 5:14*) *For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."* (*Jas 2:8*) *If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you do well;*

Mat 22:40 On these two (there is no third commandment to love yourself!) **commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."** (*2Ti 3:1-2a*) *But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: [2a] For men will be lovers of themselves.*

- **If you love God with all your heart, soul and mind,** you will have no other gods before Him. You would not take His Name in vain! You would want to do that which pleased Him. That would be the supreme desire of your life. So, all of the other prohibitions would be unnecessary. It is all summed up in just to love God supremely!
- **If you love your neighbor as yourself, you would not steal from him.** You would not covet that which is his. You would not lie about him. It is all right here! Loving God supremely and loving your neighbor as yourself. In these, all the law, all of the prophets, all of the writings of the book, are summed up right here! Your problem is the fact that you do not love God supremely and you do not love your neighbor as yourself.
- **We have other loves that come into our life.** The Bible speaks of the love of money. There is the love of possessions, and the love of pleasure. Many other loves that become the supreme love of a person's life turns them away from God. They give first attention, their first love to these other things. The prophets came. They warned the people about giving themselves over to pleasure, to sexual licentiousness, of giving themselves over to their possessions and all. All the law and the prophets dealt with these issues. But, if you love God supremely and love your neighbor as yourself, you do not have to worry about anything else! It is all wrapped up right there. You are all right!

Whose Son Is the Christ?

Mat 22:41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

- **They have been questioning Jesus.** They have been trying to catch Him. Now, He turns the table, and He asks them a question.

Mat 22:42 saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David" (*Rev 22:16*) "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. **I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."**

- **They said unto him, He is the son of David.** That is correct! God promised to David that there would never cease to be one of his seed sitting upon the throne. David interpreted that correctly as God was promising that the Messiah would come through David. God said, (*2Sa 7:27b*) *For You, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed this to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house! Thus, the Son of David became one of the titles of the Messiah. He shall sit upon the throne of His father David, the angel*

promised Mary. Isaiah speaks about Him sitting on the throne of David. (*Isa 9:7*) *Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.* He would be the righteous branch out of the stem of Jesse. (*Isa 11:1*) *There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.* Jeremiah and Ezekiel, speak of the descendant of David being King, reigning forever! So, the Messiah was known as *the Son of David*. It is repeated twenty-seven times in the Bible.

- **Whose Son is He? He is the Son of David.** Matthew begins the Gospel with the genealogy of Jesus, the Son of Abraham, the Son of David. (*Mat 1:1*) *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham.* Paul begins Romans somewhat that way also, (*Rom 1:3-4*) *concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, [4] and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.* It is commonly accepted by them. Jesus then proposes an interesting enigma.

Mat 22:43 He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit (Jesus defines the authorship of the OT as the Holy Spirit) call Him 'LORD' (quoting from Psa 110:1) saying:

- **Jesus said them, How then if He is the Son of David, does David in the Spirit, or by the Holy Spirit, recognizing that David was a prophet, and that his words were inspired by the Holy Spirit, called Him, Lord?**
- **Quoting from (Psa 110:1) A Psalm of David. The LORD (Jehovah) said to my Lord (Adonai), "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool,"** where the "LORD", the first one, being the name of God, the Yahweh, or some people pronounce Jehovah; **Yahweh said unto my Adonai, my Lord.** David is saying "My Lord" in prophesying of the Messiah. He is to be the Son of David and **yet David is calling Him "My Lord!"** That is a cultural no-no! It was a patriarchal type of society and the father ruled. The father was always addressed as Lord or Sir, sort of the equivalent to the Kurios or the Adonai, titles of respect and the acknowledgment of lordship.
- **How is it then that David would call Him Lord?** A father would never address a son as Lord. That was just a totally unacceptable in that culture! The father was the lord of the family. If David be the father, He is the Son of David, and how is it that David called Him, the Messiah, Lord?

Mat 22:44 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL" '?

- **Here you have David, speaking to the Father. Then of speaking of the Messiah, then, calling the Messiah, Lord. David is the greatest king in the history of the nation of Israel. Somehow, if he is going to call the Messiah, "Lord," the Messiah must be something more than a great man from David's bloodline. He must be more than a man!** How then, if David calls Him "Lord", how is He his, David's, son, merely a physical descendant of him? So, he is declaring to them the fact that when the Messiah came, He would be more than just a great man and a great king! He would also be divine!
- **SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL."** This, of course, was a prophecy concerning the present position of Jesus Christ who has ascended into heaven and is now waiting until the Father subdues the people and they make His enemies His footstool.
- (*Pro 30:4*) *Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, If you know?*

Mat 22:45 If David then calls Him 'LORD,' how is He his Son?"

- **How could David call his son superior unless He was?** The only logical answer to this question is the virgin birth. Jesus is David's son, but He is greater than David! A son of David cannot be greater than David unless there is something greater introduced into the line to make a greater son. The records **of the supernatural birth of Jesus afford the only satisfactory answer.** The Lord of David got into David's line, as stated in Luke's Gospel, (*Luk 1:35*) *And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. He is greater than David because He is the Lord from heaven!*

Mat 22:46 And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

- **In other words, stay away from Him.** No one, not the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Scribes, nor the Herodians, dared to get into a verbal kind of an exchange with Jesus. All of their human wisdom, training and education was useless in attacking the Son of God! After that no one dared to ask Him any more questions. The verbal battle is over, they will now turn to violence and treachery instead.

KEY PRINCIPLES - Matthew Chapter 21

- **The Parable of the Wedding Feast** - The King has presented His Son to the world and has prepared a wedding feast, inviting all Israel to attend. Upon their refusal to come, He gave instructions to as many as you find. The King came in to see the guests. He found one without a wedding garment, which is the righteousness of Christ, and is absolutely essential and supplied to all who believe. When asked how he could come on any other basis? The guest was speechless! The King cast him into outer darkness. We cannot enter in on anything we do ourselves, but only through our faith in Christ, in the merits of Jesus Christ – only on what He has done for us!
- **The Pharisees: Is It Lawful to Pay Taxes to Caesar?** - Jesus brilliantly turns a question intended to be answered with a damaging “yes or no”, into another beautiful teaching experience. Holding up a Roman coin with its image of Caesar, He said pay to Caesar what is Caesar’s. But to God the things that are God’s! As His image bearers, we are to give God what is His, our lives and all that we have and are! He gave us life! We need to give it back in His hands! He want your heart, your soul! He wants you! Are we paid up in full?
- **The Sadducees: What About the Resurrection?** – Jesus turned the Sadducees’ absurd hypothetical question into their being mistaken on two accounts. They erred not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God! He powerfully corrected them by quoting from their Pentateuch, that God is the God of the living, not of the dead! **“I am** (not I was!) **the God of Abraham.** Heaven and resurrection are real! Those believers who have gone before are totally alive and are waiting in heaven for you. This is a glorious truth!
- **The Pharisees and the Scribes: Which is the First Commandment of All?** – Again, Jesus answers a clever, self-trapping question, so profoundly! He not only answers which is the first commandment, but the second as well. ***On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.***” If you love God supremely and love your neighbor as yourself, you do not have to worry about anything else! It is all wrapped up right there! If you are having trouble loving Him, each day we need to sit at the foot of the cross! Remember, we love Him because He first loved us! As we get overwhelmed looking up at Him, we will be contagious! Who cares about covid? With the church sitting at the feet of Jesus Christ, we will infect our entire culture with the love of God!
- **Jesus: How Can David Call His Descendant Lord?** – While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus now asks the Pharisees a final question, as to the Divinity of the Messiah. Quoting David, their greatest king, from their OT scriptures, (***Psa 110:10a***) ***The LORD said to my Lord.*** How could David call his son superior unless He was? The only logical answer to this question is the virgin birth. ***“He will be called the Son of God!*** The Lord Jesus was forcing the Pharisees to face up to the real issue and to acknowledge Him, as fully man, as David's son and fully Divine, as David's Lord. Do you really know Him as your Lord and Savior? Does He know you?

Lord, help us to love!

Mat 22:37 Jesus said to him, 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' Mat 22:39 And the second is like it: 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF'

CLOSING SONG:

Mat 22:44 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, TILL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL" '?

Mat 22:45 If David then calls Him 'LORD,' how is He his Son?"

Who is He to you?

HE IS LORD - Brooklyn Tabernacle (3:15)

*He is Lord. He is Lord. He has risen from the dead and He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow. Every tongue confess. That Jesus Christ is Lord! (2X)
He's my Lord!.....*

CLOSING PRAYER:

Assignment for next week: Read ***Matthew Chapter 23***