

WHAT I THINK OF CHRIST

By Henry T. Mahan

Matthew 22:41-45

TV-492b

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I'm going to turn in the Bible today, to the Book of **Matthew, Chapter 22**. This is an interesting Chapter, in God's Word. There were a group of Pharisee's and Sadducee's and lawyers who came to our Lord and tried to trap Him, in His talk and His preaching. The Sadducees began to fire these questions at Him, the Sadducee's who did not believe in the resurrection. They asked Him this, "*They said now suppose a woman is married and her husband dies, she marries again, and he dies, she marries again and he dies, in the resurrection, who's wife will she be? She's had several husbands, who will have her as a wife in the resurrection?*" They didn't believe in the resurrection. Well, our Lord answered in this fashion, He said, "*In the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.*"

And then the Pharisee's came to Him and they were strict legalists; they wore their phylacteries long, their borders on their garments broad, they prayed on the street corner and read the scripture like the Pharisee praying in the temple claimed to be, "without sin." They came to Him and said, "Which is the greatest law?" And our Lord answered them, "*Thy shall love thy God with all thy heart, mind, soul and strength.*" That's the first and great commandment. The second is like unto it, "*Thy shall love thy neighbor as thyself.*" And all the law is fulfilled in this word, "*Thou shall love the Lord thy God and thy neighbor as thyself.*"

Then, a lawyer came to Him and he said, "*Is it right for the people of God to pay tribute to Caesar?*" In other words, pay taxes. The people of Israel were under the heel of the Roman government and they were taxing them to death. He said, "Is that right?" Israel, they are God's people, they're in the kingdom of God. "Is it right for them to pay taxes to the pagan, heathen dictator, Caesar?" Our Lord said, "*Do you have a coin?*" The man handed him a coin. The Lord said, "*Whose inscription is on that coin?*" The man said, "Caesar's." He said, "*Then you render to Caesar, the things that are Caesar's, and to God, the things that are God's.*"

Now, when He had put them all to silence, it says here, in **Matthew 22:41**, Now, when the Pharisee's were gathered together, and He'd put the Pharisee's and Sadducee's and lawyers all to silence, the Lord Jesus asked them a question, now you listen, our Lord asked them,

saying, “*What think ye of Christ?*” He’s not saying, “Now, what do you think of me?” He is the Christ, no question about that, but He is asking them, “What do you think?” You religious men, you Pharisee’s, you teachers of the scripture, rulers of the Jews, the Old Testament, the scriptures all prophesy of the coming of Christ who is called the Messiah, who’s called the messenger of the covenant, who’s called the redeemer of Israel, “*What do you think of this Christ, for whom you look, whose Son is He?*” They quickly replied, “Well, He’s the Son of David, the Christ, the Son of David.”

Then our Lord said, “*How then doth David in Spirit call Him Lord, if He’s David’s Son?*” Why did David call Him Lord, saying, “*The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool?*” They couldn’t deny that. That was in their scripture. David said, “The Lord said to my Lord, my redeemer, my Christ, my messiah, my representative, He said, “*Sit thou on my right hand.*” Now, the Lord Jesus said, “*How can He be David’s son and be David’s Lord?*” How is the Christ, the messiah, David’s Son and also David’s God? They couldn’t answer. From that moment on, they didn’t ask Him any more questions. That my friend is the very heart of the gospel.

Can you answer that question? That’s the very heart of the gospel. It’s declared throughout the whole Word of God, that Christ, our Redeemer, our Messiah, is God. And yet, our Christ, our Redeemer, is a man. He’s a man and He’s God, He’s the God-man.

Someone wrote this, “The ancient of days whose goings forth have been of everlasting became an infant of days. He who made woman, was made of a woman, and was made under His own law. He who made the sun, worked as a carpenter, by candlelight. He who made the fields of wheat, one day sat down on a well, hungry, while His disciples went to buy food. He who made the rivers, hanging upon a cruel cross, a cruel cross, cried, ‘*I thirst!*’ He, who made the tree, was nailed to it.”

How can this be? How can He be David’s Son, according to the flesh, and David’s God according to the spirit?

I’ll tell you, He’s the only man who chose His own mother. Who set the day, hour and place of His own birth. He determined the years of His own life, the time and the place, the hour and the way in which He would die. And then, raised Himself from the grave.

I want to show you today, the glories of that person and the glorious, imperative truth, throughout the scripture of how that person can be the Son of David, yet, David’s Lord. That’s what our Lord asked the Pharisee’s, “*What think ye of Christ?*” Whose Son is He? They quickly said, “He’s the Son of David.” Well, now tell me, how did David in spirit, call Him Lord, saying, “*The Lord said to my Lord, sit thou on my right hand?*” I ask Him, “*How can He be David’s Son and David’s Lord?*” (God)!

I’m going to show you through the scriptures how this truth is taught, all the way through the Word of God. That God came to this earth in human form, in the form of a servant, in the likeness of sinful flesh, and lived on this earth, and died on this earth, to redeem a people, who was buried and rose again and went back to the throne.

In **Isaiah 7:14**, now take these scriptures down, if you would like to, or if you would rather just listen, and not write, you can send for the tape, and take your time replaying or write down while the tape is playing. **Isaiah 7:14**, “*The Lord Himself, shall give you a sign, a virgin shall conceive and bare a son, and thou shall call His name, (the name of this son, born of a woman, born of a virgin, call his name), Emanuel.*” What does that mean? (God with us)! That’s what the angels said to Mary. She said, “*I can’t have a child, I don’t know a man.*” He said, “*That Holy thing conceived in your womb by the Holy Spirit, shall be called the Son of God*” (a man, but the Son of God). “*David’s son, yet David’s Lord.*”

Look at **Isaiah 9:6**, “*Unto us a child is born.*” That’s a simple matter, there’s thousands of them born every day. “*Unto us a child is born.*” Watch the next line, “*Unto us a Son is given.*” One who already lived, one whose goings forth are from everlasting, the ancient of days. A child born, but inhabiting the body of that child is a son, the Son of God! “*The government shall be on His shoulders; His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*” No other human being fits that description, only one, “*David’s Son and David’s Lord.*” (The Christ)!

Jeremiah 23:5, listen to this, this is the weeping prophet, “*Behold the days will come, sayeth the Lord, that I’ll raise up unto David,*” (from the loins of David, from the family of David, I’ll raise up) *a righteous branch.*” There will be a branch from the old family tree of David, Son of David. In the days of that man, Judah shall be saved. And this is his name, whereby He shall be called, this branch of David, this Son of David, this seed of David, this man from the loins of David that I will raise up, the days are coming, call His name, “*The Lord our Righteousness.*”

Now, you can’t call any man Lord; “*Call no man father, one is your Father.*” And this man that God says He’ll raise up from the seed of David, is the (Lord our Righteousness).

Listen to **Malachi 3:1**; this is all the way through the scripture. This is why it’s amazing that these men couldn’t answer Him. These were scholars, theologians, and rulers of the Jews, teachers of the scripture. And our Lord said, “*What think ye of Christ? Whose Son is He?*” They quickly answered, “*The Son of David, the root of Jesse, tribe of Judah.*” He said, “*Well, why did David call Him Lord? How can He be David’s Son and David’s Lord?*” They were dumb-founded and from then on they didn’t ask Him a thing. They didn’t have enough information to ask a question.

Malachi 3:1, “*Behold sayeth the Lord of Hosts, I’ll send my messenger, (it’s John the Baptist) He’ll prepare the way before me, and the Lord, whom you seek, (the Lord of whom all the prophets have written, the Lord of whom all the patterns speak, the Lord whom you seek, the messiah whom you seek), shall certainly come to His temple.*” Think of all the times the Lord came to that temple and they didn’t know Him.

He spoke one day in the synagogue at Nazareth and they rose up in anger and would have killed Him. He came to the temple countless times. “*He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not, He came unto His own,* (He came to His

own temple, to His own people) *and they received Him not.*” They didn’t know Him and didn’t receive Him, the Son of David, the Son of God, David’s Son, David’s Lord.

John 1:1, listen; you can quote this as well as I can, “*And in the beginning was the Word, (that’s God) and the Word was God. And all things were made by Him, without Him was not anything made, that was made.*” That’s talking about our Lord, and our redeemer. Now, down in verse 14, now, “*That Word which was with God and was God and by whom all things were made, that Word was made flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, the glory as the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*” David’s Son, (flesh) and David’s God.

One day our Lord asked His disciples, listen to this, in **Mathew 16**; One day our Lord asked His disciples, He said, “*Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?*” Out there in the world, as you are moving around in the market places, down at the seashore fishing, my fame has spread throughout the area, “*Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?*” Well Lord, some of them say that you are John the Baptist who has come back from the dead. Some of them say that you are Elijah the prophet. You remember Malachi says, “*Before that great and terrible day of the Lord, I’ll send Elijah,*” they said, “They think you’re Elijah. Some of them think that you are one of the prophets.” But, He said to His disciples, “*Whom do you say that I, the Son of Man, am? What think ye of Christ? Whom do you say that I am?*”

Peter answered, “*Thou art the Christ.*” “*Whom do you say, that I, the Son of Man am?*” You’re the Christ, the Son of God! “*We believe and are sure that thou art the Christ, the Son of God.*” There it is! Peter said, “Son of Man, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh,” David’s Son. Son of God, David’s Lord, and the Christ, God’s anointed. That’s who He is. He’s the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord King, Jesus, our Priest, Sacrifice, King and Redeemer.

Let’s go back to the scriptures again, “*What think ye of Christ?*” How can He be David’s Son and be David’s Lord?” When Peter preached at Pentecost, **Acts 2:36**, he stood before all of these people of Israel from all the nations, and said, “Ye men of Israel, hear my words, Jesus of Nazareth, a man, we know who He is.” He’s from Nazareth, He’s the carpenter, and He’s the Son of Mary. That’s what you have said, all of these years. A man, but a man approved of God, among you, as you also know, with miracles and wonders and signs. One of your own said, Nicodemus said, “*No man can do these miracles except God be with him.*” “*A man approved of God, among you, as you know, with miracles and wonders and signs, God delivered Him into your hands and you, with wicked hands have crucified Him. You with wicked hands have crucified and slain. Therefore, ye men of Israel, let all the house of Israel know, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ.*” That man, Son of David, is the Lord, the Son of God and He is the Christ.

Now, Israel had three main offices. They had a prophet sent of God; they had a priest sent of God and a king. Moses was a prophet, Aaron was a priest, and David was a king, (just as a picture). Prophet, priest and king. “*God spake to our fathers, by the prophets.*” The

priest offered sacrifices and things pertaining to God for the people. The king ruled over them. No man ever held those three offices. A man was a prophet, but he wasn't a priest or a king. A man was a king, but he wasn't a prophet or a priest. One man held all those offices, Jesus Christ. Jesus the Son of God and Jesus, the Seed of David. He's our prophet, that prophet talked about in Deuteronomy 18. *"He's our priest forever after the order of Melchisedec, and He's our King. He's our King of King and Lord of Lords."*

Do you see what the scriptures say? Can you answer that question? *"What think ye of Christ?"* How can He be David's Son and be David's Lord? In the **Book of Romans**, I call the Book of Romans, the gospel. If you want to get acquainted with the gospel of God, read the Book of Romans, "justification by faith." All right, in the Book of Romans, Paul opens the book with this glorious foundational truth, the heart of the gospel that Jesus the (Christ is David's Son and David's Lord). Now, I want to show you this, so open your Bible to the **Book of Romans**, and look at **verse 1:1**, *"Paul a servant, a bond slave of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God,"* which is no new gospel, but is the ancient gospel, prophesied by our fathers, given to us in the Old Testament scriptures, concerning His Son. See **verse 3**; *"I'm separated to the gospel of God, concerning His Son, who was made of the seed of David according to the flesh and declared to be the Son of God by the spirit of holiness."*

That's the way Paul starts the Book of Romans, *"Jesus the Christ is made of the seed of David, according to the flesh."* That's how He was born into this world, through the house and lineage of David. Mary, His mother, who bore Him, was in line for the throne of David. Joseph, her husband, who was not the father of Christ; He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph also was in the line of Christ, in the line of David. He's made of the seed of David, according to the flesh, He's David's Son. He's the heir to the throne of Israel. He's made the seed of David by birth, but He's declared to be the Son of God according to the Spirit of Holiness. David's Son, David's God, our Christ!

Now, one other scripture, over in **First Timothy Chapter 3:16**, here, the apostle Paul says, *"Without controversy; (there's no debate on this matter; there's no argument on this issue), without controversy, great is this mystery of Godliness."* It's a mystery that has to be revealed. It has to be taught to us by the Holy Spirit, because; *"Eye hath not seen and ear hath not heard, neither hath it entered the heart of man the things God through Christ has prepared for them that love Him, but He has revealed them unto us by His Spirit."* So, Paul says; *"Without controversy, great is the mystery of Godliness."* Listen, God was manifest in the flesh. Almighty God was made a man. God took on Himself, human flesh. *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus our Lord who thought it not robbery to be equal with God, yet made Himself of no reputation and took upon himself the likeness of sinful flesh and was made in the form of a servant and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."* That's a mystery! God was manifested in human flesh. Listen, *"justified in the Spirit."* What does that word, justified mean? (Vindicated)! What He claimed was true. He proved it by His words, He proved it by His works, and He proved it by His resurrection. He was vindicated in the Spirit, and seen of the angels.

Angels do not pay a whole lot of attention to what we do, but everything Christ did, the angels were involved. When His birth was announced to Joseph and Mary, the angels came and announced it. When He was born in Bethlehem, the angels, a heavenly host, appeared unto the shepherds and said, *“Unto you is born in the city of David, a Savior.”* When our Lord was tempted on the mountain, by Satan, the angels ministered to Him. When He wept and prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, the angels ministered to Him. When the women came to the tomb on that Sunday morning, expecting to anoint a dead body, the stone was rolled away from the tomb. Two angels sat on the stone, and they said to the women, *“Why are you seeking the living among the dead, He’s not here, He’s risen!”* The angels announced His resurrection. Then, when the disciples stood out there forty days later and watched the Lord Jesus descend back to heaven, the angels appeared to them and said, *“He’ll be back!”* *“Ye men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven, this same Jesus which is taken up from you shall come in so like manner as you have seen Him go. Great is the mystery of Godliness, God was manifest in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen of the angels, ministered to by the angels, preached to the Gentiles, believed on in the world, and received up into Glory.”* Oh, there are so many scriptures that tell us who He is. *“God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself.”*

The disciples said to Him one day, *“Show us the Father, He said, He that hath seen Me, has seen the Father.”* *“How sayest thou, showest thou the Father.”* He said, in John 10, *“I and my Father are one.”* Unto the Son, God says, *“Let the Holy angels of God worship Him.”* Unto the Son, He said, *“Thy throne O God is forever.”* Paul said, *“There’s one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”* Paul, in the **Book of Hebrews**, said this; *“God who at sundry times and in divers manners, spake to our fathers by the prophets, He hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son.”* (The God Man), *“whom He hath appointed heir over all things. By whom He made the worlds. Who is the brightness of His glory, who is the exact image of His person, who upholdeth all things by the Word of His power. Who by Himself purged our sins. Who has sat down at the right hand of God.”*

That’s what I think of Christ. What think ye of Christ, David’s Son and David’s God? He is the Lord Jesus Christ, the King, the Priest, the Prophet and all things to the believer, our Mediator!