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Section: Doctrine of Christ (Christology)

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q76. How is Christ our King?**

Christ is our King by subduing and ruling over all the Father has given Him.

* **He Reigns Over Creation**

**John 3:5-7** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'”

**Colossians 1:16** For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

**Psalm 24:1-2** The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

**Isaiah 40:21-23** Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

**Proverbs 21:1** The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

**Daniel 2:21 “**He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings …”

**Romans 13:1** Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

The Father covenanted a kingdom to the Son, based on the work the Son would do in time and space to earn and establish that kingdom. It is a kingdom that does not include those who are not individually called into the kingdom by God Himself—those whose lives are not made new, unto being marked by the rule and reign of Christ over their lives.

* **Christ Subdues**

**Matthew 5:20** “For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**1 Corinthians 6:9-10** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

**Samuel Renihan**: “The kingdom proclaimed by the Christ is a kingdom not of this world (John 18:36). Though the full unveiling of the nature of this kingdom occurs in the apostolic writings, the ministry of Christ established all its fundamental features. It is a kingdom from above, a kingdom entered not by natural birth, but supernatural birth (John 3:3–6). It is a kingdom belonging not to those born of the flesh, but those born of the Spirit (Matthew 8:11-12). It is a kingdom belonging not to those born of Abraham's body, but his belief (John 8:39, 56). It is a kingdom whose localized assembly is based on faith in Christ and the exercise of His authority (Matthew 16:16–19). It is a kingdom of those who are humble and helpless like children (Matthew 18:1-4).”

**1689 Confession of Faith**: “Because we are hostile and utterly unable to return to God, and so that we can be rescued and made secure from our spiritual enemies, we need his kingly office to convince, subdue, draw, sustain, deliver, and preserve us for his heavenly kingdom.”

**Romans 5:8** but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

His kingly victory has subdued our enemies and set us free from the bondage of sin and death, along with subduing our hostility towards Him and making us His friend.

Christ performs His office of king over us in love for us, not in judgment and wrath. He will use a rod of iron to subdue those who reject Him but for those of us He has come to save, He subdues with a shepherd’s rod and staff.

* **The Return of the King**

**Psalm 2:7-9** I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

**Psalm 110:5-6** The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

All people will acknowledge Christ as King and Lord when He comes and judges the world. Those who have longed for His coming will do so in joy, and the wicked will do so in fear and terror.

**Philippians 2:10-11** so 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.

**Revelation 19:11-16** Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

**Samuel Renihan**: “The King will return to raise and judge mankind, sending His sheep to everlasting glory in the new creation, and the goats to everlasting punishment in Hell. And the fullness of the blessings of the New Covenant and the kingdom of God will be enjoyed eternally, the supreme blessing being the bridegroom himself, Jesus Christ ‘who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen’ (Romans 9:5).”

* **Christ Is Reigning and Ruling Now**

**Ephesians 1:22; Hebrews 2:8; 1 Corinthians 15:27**

Christ established a visible present manifestation of His kingdom in the present age—that is, His church.

**1 Peter 2:9-10** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**Samuel Renihan**: “The Christ claimed absolute authority in the kingdom of Heaven. He is its king … The ministry of Jesus Christ initiated the unveiling of the full and final plan of God. Jesus began to reveal the blessing for the nations—a new humanity in a new kingdom through a new covenant to be received by faith in Christ Himself.”

If we are truly a part of His kingdom of righteousness, then we will reflect that in the way we live, not because we are trying to earn or maintain God’s favor, but because it is who we are as chosen and beloved citizens of His kingdom, members of His royal priesthood.

**Matthew 25:31-46**

Our love for one another is how the world will recognize that we are Christians, that we are citizens of the kingdom of God. Our nationality as citizens of Christ’s kingdom is not determined by our language, our skin color, or our geographical borders.

**Matthew 28:18-20** ... "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**Psalm 133:1** Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

* **Application**

**Genesis 12:1-3** Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**Genesis 17:6-7** “I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

**Psalm 89:3-4** You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'"

**Psalm 132:11** The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.”

**1 Samuel 8:4-9** Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

**1 Samuel 8:19-20** But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

**Deuteronomy 17:14-15** "When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,' you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.”

**John 1:11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

When we pray for God’s kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven, we cannot pray that in hopes for something that He has already told us is NOT going to happen. This earth in its current form is NEVER going to be that kingdom. Jesus has made it clear that this earth is passing away and is going to be destroyed.

**John 18:36** Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

We bring the kingdom of God to earth as it is in heaven when we as the church, and as individual members of the church, increasingly yield to His reign and rule in our lives as we are sanctified in righteousness and obedience to His commands.