

## ON HIS THRONE – THE REIGNING AND RETURNING KING OF KINGS – David A. Ramos

### INTRODUCTION

The title "King of Kings" is attributed to Jesus Christ. It signifies Jesus' supreme authority and sovereignty over all creation.

This title is found in the New Testament, specifically in the book of Revelation:

- Revelation 17:14: "They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers."
- Revelation 19:16: On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: king of kings and lord of lords.

The great truth of Christianity is that Jesus, our King of Kings, is ***On His Throne***.

This four-week series is a follow-on to the *In His Steps* course. ***On His Throne*** will cover four critical "post-resurrection" events:

- **The Appearances** – the 40-days subsequent to Jesus' resurrection
- **The Ascension** – the culmination of Jesus' earthly life
- **The Pentecost** – the celebration of Shavuot and the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- **The Second Coming** – the triumphant return of the King of Kings

I hope that this course will inspire and equip you live in light of His reign and His return.

I look forward to continuing on this journey with you. Please contact me at [dave@WWJDcoaching.com](mailto:dave@WWJDcoaching.com) if you have any questions or suggestions.

Godspeed,



## ON HIS THRONE – LESSON ONE: THE APPEARANCES

### Introduction:

The 40-day period following Jesus' resurrection was a pivotal time of revelation, instruction, and preparation for His disciples. These post-resurrection appearances serve as a crucial bridge between the moment of Christ's triumph over death and His ascension into heaven. These appearances affirmed Jesus' victory over sin and death and solidified the foundation of Christian faith.

### The Empty Tomb:

Our story begins on Sunday, April 9, 30 AD  $\cong$  before dawn  $\cong$  with the empty tomb.

- The second earthquake in three days.
- An angel rolled back the stone. Why?
- The guards “shook and became like dead men.”
- Mary Magdalene and “the other Mary” see that the stone had been rolled away. Mary Magdalene runs and reports to Simon Peter and John, “they have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put Him!”
- Mary mother of James & Joses, and Salome enter the empty tomb. They encounter the two angels who ask, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen ... and is going ahead to Galilee.” The women run with joy to tell the disciples, and Peter.
- John wins the race to the tomb, but hesitates to go in. Peter barges in and sees the burial cloth. Then, John then goes in as well. Peter and John go “back to their homes.”
- Mary Magdalene waits outside, crying.

### Jesus’ Resurrection:

“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

### The Appearances:

During this 40-day period, the Bible only records ELEVEN appearances:

1. Mary Magdalene ... at the tomb
2. The other women ... at the tomb
3. Cleopas and his companion ... on the road to Emmaus
4. Peter ... unknown location
5. The ten disciples ... in Jerusalem
6. The eleven disciples ... in Jerusalem
7. The eleven? disciples ... fishing in Galilee
8. The eleven disciples ... in Galilee
9. Five hundred followers ... unknown location
10. James (Jesus’ brother?) ... unknown location
11. The eleven disciples ... on the Mount of Olives

However, we must remember that “Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, not even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.” (John 21:25)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why didn’t Jesus ascend right to heaven? Why did He spend an additional 40-days on earth?
- How can we apply the lessons from Jesus’ appearances?

**Jesus started His earthly ministry with 40-days in the Wilderness.**  
**He completed His earthly ministry with 40-days in the Promised Land.**  
 David A. Ramos

## ON HIS THRONE – LESSON TWO: THE ASCENSION

### Introduction:

The ascension of Jesus holds profound significance in Christian theology, marking the culmination of His earthly ministry and signaling His exaltation to the right hand of God. This event, often overshadowed by His crucifixion and resurrection, is nevertheless a cornerstone of faith, carrying immense implications for believers both then and now. Jesus' ascension represents the fulfillment of ancient prophecies, the establishment of His eternal reign, and the assurance of His ongoing intercession for His followers.

### The Biblical Accounts:

“Then Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing, He began to ascend into heaven.”

- The accounts of Jesus' ascension are found in Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, and Acts 1:6-12.
  - It is interesting that something this important would **not** be included in Matthew's and John's gospels, since they were eyewitnesses to the event (versus Mark and Luke who were not).
- Jesus foreshadowed His ascension: "What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!" (John 6:62)
- Paul confirmed Jesus' ascension: "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess." (Hebrews 4:14)

### Jesus' Ascension:

- Happened 40-days after His resurrection.
- Took place at the Mount of Olives.
- Was a literal, bodily return to heaven.
- He rose from the ground gradually and visibly.
- He rose in a cloud.
- The disciples (and perhaps others) were eyewitnesses.
- After He was no longer visible, two angels appeared and promised that He would return "in just the same way that you have watched Him go" (Acts 1:11).

### The Significance of Jesus' Ascension:

1. Jesus' Ascension Ended His Human Incarnation.
2. Jesus' Ascension Ended His Kenosis.
3. Jesus' Ascension Completed His Salvation Work.
4. Jesus' Ascension Marked His Exaltation as Lord.
5. Jesus' Ascension Marked His Coronation as King.
6. Jesus' Ascension Set the Stage for the Holy Spirit.
7. Jesus' Ascension Passed the Ministry to His Apostles.
8. Jesus' Ascension Marked His Lordship Over His Church.
9. Jesus' Ascension Marked His Triumph over Satan.
10. Jesus' Ascension Started His High Priestly Work as our Intercessor.
11. Jesus' Ascension Began His Preparation of our Heavenly Home.
12. Jesus' Ascension Started the Countdown for His Return.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Do you celebrate Ascension Day? If so, how?
- Which of the aspects of Jesus' ascension is most fascinating to you?

**"In the Ascension, Jesus does not leave us behind but goes ahead of us as our forerunner, leading us into the presence of God. He goes before us to prepare a place for us and to intercede for us."**

Charles Spurgeon

## ON HIS THRONE – LESSON THREE: THE PENTECOST

### Introduction:

Pentecost emphasizes the vital role of the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian. It is through the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence that we experience spiritual transformation, receive spiritual gifts, find unity in the body of Christ, and are empowered to be witnesses for Jesus Christ. Pentecost was a transformative experience for the early church, and it can be for us today.

### Shavuot:

Shavuot is a Jewish holiday that is celebrated seven weeks after Passover. The holiday has several names, including the Festival of Weeks, Feast of Harvest, and the Day of First Fruits. It was one of the three required pilgrimage feasts in the first century.

### Pentecost:

The term "Pentecost" originates from the Greek word "pentekostē," meaning "fiftieth," signifying the Jewish festival of Shavuot, which marked the giving of the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. (Acts 2:1-12)

- The disciples were together in Jerusalem, celebrating Shavuot, and “waiting” per Jesus’ instructions.
- The Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples with “a sound like the blowing of a violent wind.”
- The disciples “saw what seemed to be tongues of fire” that came to rest on each of them.
- They were “filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues.”

### The Holy Spirit:

The Hebrew term for the Holy Spirit is Ruach HaKodesh. Ruach means "spirit" or "breath," and HaKodesh means "the Holy" or "the Sacred."

- The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. As such, the Holy Spirit possesses all the attributes of God, including omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence, etc.
- Jesus told His disciples that it was good for Him to go away so that He could send the Holy Spirit. (John 16:7)

### The Role of the Holy Spirit:

1. The Holy Spirit Convicts the World of Sin. (John 16:8)
2. The Holy Spirit Reveals Truth. (John 16:13)
3. The Holy Spirit Glorifies Christ. (John 16:15)
4. The Holy Spirit is a Source of Spiritual Power. (Acts 1:8)
5. The Holy Spirit is a Source of Boldness. (Acts 4:31)
6. The Holy Spirit Directs the Our Path. (Acts 13:4)
7. The Holy Spirit Gives Believers Life. (Romans 8:10-11)
8. The Holy Spirit Helps in Our Weakness. (Romans 8:26)
9. The Holy Spirit Intercedes for Us. (Romans 8:26-27)
10. The Holy Spirit is a Source of Revelation. (1 Corinthians 2:10-11)
11. The Holy Spirit Gives Spiritual Gifts to Believers. (1 Corinthians 12:7-11)
12. The Holy Spirit Helps Us Defeat Temptation and Sin. (Galatians 5:16)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How would you describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit?
- Describe a time in your life when you felt especially empowered by the Holy Spirit.

**"Pentecost is the reversal of Babel. At Babel, humanity's pride led to division and confusion. At Pentecost, the Spirit brings unity and understanding, enabling people from every nation to hear the gospel in their own language."**

John Piper

## ON HIS THRONE – LESSON FOUR: THE SECOND COMING

### Introduction:

Jesus promised to return in glory, ushering in a new era of divine rule and restoration. These events represent the culmination of history, the final defeat of evil, and the consummation of God's kingdom on earth.

### Five Future Events:

While we commonly refer to these future events as “the second coming,” that phrase is not exactly correct/complete. There are FIVE coming events that we must understand.

### The Rapture:

Before He establishes His Millennial Kingdom on earth, Jesus will come for His Church, an event commonly referred to as the "Rapture." (1 Corinthians 15:51-54)

- Christians that have already died will be raised from the dead.
- Living Christians will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air.
- All Christians will receive a new body similar to Christ's glorified body.
- Will this happen before the tribulation, during the tribulation, or after the tribulation? The Bible says, “No man knows the day or the hour” and denominations have different interpretations and timelines.

### The Great Tribulation:

The Great Tribulation is a seven-year time of unprecedented difficulty, evil, and of intense suffering. (Revelation chapters 6-19)

- It is characterized by natural disasters, wars, famines, plagues, and persecution of believers.
- The Great Tribulation is also a time of testing and purification, separating the faithful remnant from those who reject God's authority and worship the Antichrist.

### The Millennial Kingdom:

At the end of the Tribulation, Jesus Christ will return with the Church to establish the Millennial Kingdom on earth. This Kingdom will last for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:1-6)

- The Antichrist will be cast into the Lake of Fire and Satan will be bound for a thousand years.
- The nations and their representatives will be judged.
- Israel will be restored to her land, never again to be removed.

### The Final Judgment:

The Millennial Kingdom will close with apostasy and rebellion. God will crush this uprising in the last battle of the ages. (Revelation 20:7-15)

- Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire.
- All those who rejected Christ will be judged and cast into the lake of fire.

### The New Heaven and the New Earth:

After the final judgment, there will be a new heaven, a new earth, and a new Jerusalem where righteousness is the norm. The everlasting presence of God will permeate everything. (Revelation 21:2-3)

- This new heaven and earth will last for ever and ever and ever.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How can you re-orient your life and priorities in light of Jesus' (perhaps imminent) return?
- How would you explain the second coming to someone who did not believe in Jesus?

**"The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the Church, the grand climax of the gospel, and the ultimate fulfillment of God's redemptive purposes."**

John MacArthur