

## ***JESUS' SESSION***

### **1. The Definition of Jesus' Session.**

- a. Jesus' session describes what Jesus is doing between his first and second comings while he is sitting at the right hand of God in heaven.

### **2. The Period of Jesus' Session.**

- a. Jesus' session began with his ascension and will end with his second coming (\*Ps 110:1-2; Ac 3:19-21; \*He 10:12-23).
- b. Jesus' session corresponds with the church age (\*Mt 28:18-20; \*Ac 1:6-8).
  - (1) We must never forget we live in a unique age, the church age. The age in which we live drives our mission. We live in the church age, not the age of Israel or the millennial age.

### **3. The Physical Location of Jesus' Session.**

- a. Jesus is with the Father at his Father's right hand (Mt 22:44; 26:63-64; Jn 6:62; 7:33; 14:12; 16:10, 28; 17:5, 11, 13; Ac 5:30-31; Ro 8:34; Eph 1:20; Col 3:1; He 1:3-4; 8:1-2; 12:2; 1 Pe 3:22).
- b. Importantly, Jesus is seated on his Father's throne, not one his own Davidic throne (Re 3:21). He's on his Father's throne, not on his father's throne.
- c. Although Jesus is physically absent from earth, he is very much spiritually present (\*Mt 18:20; 28:20; Jn 14:18).

### **4. The Posture of Jesus' Session.**

- a. Jesus is usually seated (Mk 16:19; Lk 22:69; \*He 10:12; 12:2; Re 3:21).
  - (1) Positionally and spiritually, we are seated with Jesus on the Father's throne (Eph 2:6).
  - (2) Sitting on a throne indicates two things: (1) rest; and (2) command.
- b. Very occasionally, he stands (\*Ac 7:56; Re 5:6-8).

### **5. The Glory of Jesus' Session.**

- a. Jesus has been glorified as the God-man (Jn 17:5; Php 2:9-11).

### **6. The Sovereignty of Jesus' Session.**

- a. The Father's throne is the seat of absolute glory, majesty, and power from which the Trinity rules over the universe (Re 5:11-14).
- b. The Father's right hand is a place of power and preeminence (\*Eph 1:20-23; 4:9-10; He 1:3-4).
- c. Jesus has been given an everlasting dominion and kingdom (Da 7:13-14; Mt 28:18).
- d. Jesus' present rulership from heaven is to be distinguished from his future rulership on earth. The Father's throne differs from David's throne (2 Sa 7:12-16).
- e. Jesus' ministry in heaven now differs from his ministry before his first coming.

### **7. The Advantage of Jesus' Session.**

- a. To Jesus (\*Jn 14:28).

- (1) How do the concept of matter, space, and time work in heaven? We simply don't know.
- b. To us.
  - (1) Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to the church (\*Jn 14:16-18; 26; 15:26; \*16:5-7; Ac 1:4-5; 2:33).
    - (a) The Spirit's coming and the building of the church absolutely depended on Jesus' going to the Father. No ascension and session, no church.

## 8. Jesus' Session Roles.

- a. Ruler.
  - (1) All authority has been given to him (\*Mt 28:18).
  - (2) He is far above all rule, authority, and power (\*Eph 1:22-23).
    - (a) Our bridegroom is the Ruler of the universe! We are about to marry the King (Song).
  - (3) We don't yet see everything in subjection to him (\*He 2:8-9).
    - (a) We live with the tension that Jesus rules the universe and yet evil continues to be allowed, temporarily, on earth. We are to wait patiently in confident expectation of the day when evil will be no more.
- b. Bridegroom.
  - (1) He sent the Holy Spirit to baptise believers into one body, the church (\*Mt 16:18; Ac 1:4-5; 2:33; \*1 Co 12:13; \*Eph 1:22-23).
  - (2) He sanctifies his bride, the church (\*Eph 5:26), by nourishing and cherishing it (\*Eph 5:29).
  - (3) He gives gifts to the body (1 Co 12:5; \*Eph 4:7-13).
- c. Homebuilder.
  - (1) He is preparing a place for believers (\*Jn 14:1-3).
- d. Vine.
  - (1) He empowers the church to produce much fruit (\*Jn 15:1-10; 2 Co 13:5).
- e. Priest (Ps 110:4; He 4:14; 7:26; 8:1-2).
  - (1) He sympathises with, helps, and gives grace to believers (He 2:18; \*4:14-16).
  - (2) He intercedes for believers forever (Lk 22:32; Jn 14:12-13; \*Ro 8:34; He 7:25; \*9:24; 1 Jn 2:1-2).
    - (a) "But the Scripture teaches not the invocation of saints or to ask help of saints, since it sets before us the one Christ as the Mediator, Propitiation, High Priest, and Intercessor."<sup>1</sup>
- f. Shepherd.
  - (1) He serves as chief shepherd of the sheep (He 13:20; 1 Pt 5:4).

## 9. Application.

- a. Remember we are positionally seated with Jesus on the Father's throne (\*Eph 2:6).
- b. Take full advantage of your VIP access to God through Jesus (\*Eph 3:11-12; \*He 4:16; 7:25; 10:19-22).
- c. Wait patiently for Jesus to stand and come to earth a second time (Ps 110:1-2; Ac 3:19-21; Php 3:20; \*He 10:12-13).

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<sup>1</sup> Philipp Melancthon, *The Augsburg Confession*.