Rise Up And Build

"So They said. Let us rise up and build.' Then they set their hands to do this good work." Neh. 2:18

November 22, 2020

"What Think Ye of Christ" (No. 2)

Last weeks issue of this paper featured an article entitled "What Think Ye of Christ," a title which was taken from Matt. 22:41-46 wherein is recorded a conversation which took place between Jesus and the Pharisees. The Pharisees, with the intent to ensnare Jesus in His words, had been questioning Jesus; however, in these verses Jesus became the Questioner and they became the questioned. Jesus asked them, "What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he," Matthew 22:42.

Without taking the space to examine the context wherein that question was posed, we do think it important that we consider that question from a personal perspective, it being "what **do you** (the reader of this bulletin) **think of Christ**?" What we think of Christ will largely determine our response to His instructions as they are set forth in the New Testament. As it relates to the conclusion of last week's article, we stated that what we really think of Christ can largely be determined by what we think with regards to: the(a) <u>Claims</u> Jesus made regarding Himself, (b) His <u>commands</u> or His requirements of us, and © <u>the church</u> He built (Matt. 16:18), and purchased with His Own blood (Acts 20:28). If we reject His claims regarding Himself, if we refuse to obey His commandments, and if we refuse to become members of His church, and even diminish its importance, then obviously what we "*think*" of Christ leaves a lot to be desired!

In this article we suggest that what we think of Christ will be affected by our knowledge of **who** Jesus really is. Friend, have you ever taken the time to seriously examine the Scriptures to learn the names by which He is called? Frankly, I doubt that many have actually taken the effort to really learn the **names and titles** which are attributed to Jesus in the Bible. What follows is not a complete listing of all the names and titles, but it is enough to get us started.

In the Bible Jesus is Called:

"The last Adam:" "And so it is written, 'the first man Adam became a living being.' The last Adam became a life-giving spirit," I Cor. 15:45. "An Advocate:" "...And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous," I John 2:1. "The Almighty:" "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the End says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty," Rev. 1:8. "The Alpha and the Omega:" "I am the Alpha and the

Omega the Beginning and the End, says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come the almighty," Rev. 1:8. "The Amen:" "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God," Rev. 3:14. "The Apostle and High Priest" "Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus," Heb. 3:1. "Author and Finisher:" "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross...," Heb. 12:2. "Author of eternal salvation:" "And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him," Heb. 5:9. "Only begotten Son:" "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life," John 3:16. "Blessed and only Potentate:" "Which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords," I Tim. 6:15. "Bread of Life:" "And Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst," John 6:35. "The Captain...of Salvation:" "For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory to make the <u>captain of their salvation</u> perfect through suffering," Heb. 2:10. "Chief Shepherd:" "And when the <u>Chief Shepherd</u> appears you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away," I Pet. 5:4. "The Christ of God:" "He said to them, 'But who do you say I am?' Peter answered and said, 'The Christ of God," Luke 9:20. "Chief cornerstone:" "Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone," Eph. 2:20. "Counsellor:" "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a son is given; And the government shall be upon His shoulder and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace," Isa. 9:6. "Dayspring:" "Through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace," Luke 1:78-70. "Deliverer:" "And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written, 'The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob," Rom. 11:26. "Door:" "Then Jesus said to them again, Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep," John 10:7. "Everlasting Father:" "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace," Isa. 9:6. "Faithful witness:" "And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood," Rev. 1:5. "Forerunner:" "Where the forerunner has entered, even Jesus, having become a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek," Heb. 6:20. "Good Shepherd:" "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep," John 10:11. "Governor:" "And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel," Matt. 2:6. "Great High Priest:" "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession," Heb. 4:14. "Head:" "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church," Eph. 1:22. "Heir of all things:" "Has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through Whom also He made the worlds," Heb. 1:2. "Holy Servant:" "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel were gathered together," Acts 4:27. "Holy One:" "But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you," Acts 3:14. "Horn of salvation:" "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, And has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David," Luke 1:68-69. "I AM;" "Jesus said to them, Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, IAM," John 8:58. "Image of God:" ""Whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them," 2 Co. 4:4. "Immanuel:" "Therefore the

Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel," Isa. 7:14; cf. Matt. 1:23. "Jesus:" "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name <u>JESUS</u>, for He will save His people from their sins," Matt. 1:21. "The Just One:" "Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of Whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers." Acts 7:52. "King of the Jews:" "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying where is He who has been born King of the Jews..." (Matt. 2:1-2). "King of Kings:" "Which He will manifest in His Own time. He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and LORD of lords," I Tim. 6:15. "Lamb:" "'All who dwell on the earth will worship Him, whose names have been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world," Rev. 13:8. "Lamb of God:" "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of he world," John 1:29. "The Life." "Jesus said to them, 'I am the way, the truth, and the Life, No one comes to the Father except through Me," John 14:6. "Light of the World." "Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life," John 8:12.

Conclusion: We have not listed nearly all the names and titles of Jesus, some more of which are: "Lion of the tribe of Judah," "Lord of all," "Lord of glory," "Lord of Lords," "Man of sorrows," "Mediator," "Messiah," "Mighty God," "Morning Star," "Our Passover," "Prince of Life," "Prince of Peace," "Prophet," "Redeemer," "Resur-rection and Life," "Rock," "Root of David," "Rose of Sharon," "Savior," "Seed of Woman," "Shepherd and Bishop of souls," "Shiloh," "Son of David," "Son of God," "True Light," "True vine," "Word of God," etc., etc.

"What think ye of Christ?" It is my conviction that if we truly ponder all the names and titles of Jesus, as they are set forth in both the Old and New Testaments, it should become obvious that we will more likely confess Him as the Son of God (Matt. 16:16), and "come" to Him (Matt. 11:28), on His terms. Friend, "what think ye of Christ?"

*** —B. Witherington