

Jesus is the Christ

Sunday, October 8th, 1989

Hebrews 1:8

“But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.”

There is a passage of scripture over in the Book of Hebrews Chapter One, verse 8, in which the apostle writes these words; *“But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.”*

The Title of this message today, is: “Jesus is the Christ.”

My friends, if I had the ear of every person in this Tri-State area really interested in knowing the gospel and knowing how a Holy God can save sinful men; I would urge every one of you to study the Book of Hebrews.

I don't know of any Epistle or Book in the New Testament or the Old Testament (for that matter), that brings together both the Old Testament and the New Testament like the Book of Hebrews. The Book of Hebrews brings together the Old Testament and the New Testament as no other Epistle. All of the prophecies of the Old Testament, all of the promises, all of the pictures and patterns of the Old Testament are fulfilled in Jesus Christ our Lord. This is revealed in the Book of Hebrews.

The book of Hebrews shows the superiority of Jesus Christ over the angels, over Moses and over the Law. The Book of Hebrews shows the excellency of Christ. If there were words that would describe the Book of Hebrews, it would be the words, the excellency of Christ. The Book of Hebrews shows the Old Testament Priesthood, the Old Testament sacrifices, the Old Testament Tabernacle, and the Old Testament Laws. The Book of Hebrews shows the glory of Christ, the glory of the New Covenant over the old Covenant with its ceremonies and ordinances.

I will tell you this; the Book of Hebrews reveals the true rest for those who believe. Christ is our rest. He said, *“Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. We have ceased from our labors and entered into His rest.”* There is no book like the Book of Hebrews that reveals a rest like the people of God have. They have entered into that rest, who believe on Christ.

Now, the message and theme of the Old Testament is this; “Someone is coming.” I'm sure many of you have heard me speak of this many times. Someone is coming to this earth. This is the message of the Old Testament, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers,

Deuteronomy, Joshua, Ruth and others all through the Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and all of these Books in the Old Testament. The theme and the message of the Old Testament is, someone is coming to this earth.

You know; Job said, *“I know that my Redeemer liveth and that at the last day He will stand on this earth.”* Someone is coming to this earth that shall fulfill every promise, every prophecy, every picture, every type and every sacrifice of the Old Testament. This someone will redeem. He will redeem spiritual Israel from all their sins.

Do you remember the woman at the well? She said, *“I know that the Christ, the Messiah, is coming and He will tell us all things we need to know.”* She knew these Old Testament scriptures. She knew that someone was coming to the earth that should fulfill all the promises, pictures and prophecies of the Old Testament. My friends, that someone is Jesus Christ.

That is what Hebrews is all about. Hebrews reaches back into the Old Testament and shows all the ceremonies and sacrifices, types and pictures fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ. That is right! You see; Jesus Christ is the *“seed of woman.”* When Adam had fallen in the Garden and God had pronounced a curse upon him and the woman and a curse upon the serpent, He said to the serpent; *“The seed of woman shall bruise thy head, destroy thy power.”* That seed of woman is the virgin’s Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is that prophet like Moses. Over in Deuteronomy God said, *“I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.”* This is what the woman at the well was quoting, that passage of Deuteronomy 18. Jesus Christ is that prophet. The Father said, *“This is My Son; hear ye Him.”*

Jesus Christ is the seed of Abraham. He is the promised seed of Abraham, the miracle Son. Jesus Christ is the Priest of the most High God. Melchizedek met Abraham out in the wilderness and the fulfillment of Melchizedek’s appearance is Jesus Christ. Hebrews tells us that four or five times. He says, *“Jesus Christ is a Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”*

Jesus Christ is David’s Son. *“He is King of King and Lord of Lords.”* Jesus Christ is the Passover. Paul writes that, he says; *“Jesus Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.”* Jesus Christ is that Rock that followed them. In other words, the entire Old Testament scriptures are revealed in the Book of Hebrews.

Our Lord told those Pharisees in John 5: He said, *“You search the scriptures, for in them you think that you have life. But, they are they which testify of Me.”* The message of the Old Testament is Jesus Christ. This is revealed to us in this Book of Hebrews. In Acts 10:43 the scripture says this, *“To Him give all the prophets witness.”* This is to Christ. What is the message of the prophets? The message is Christ. What is the message of the Psalms? The message is Christ. What is the message of Moses? The message is Christ. *“To Him give all the prophets witness that through His name, whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.”* Actually, without Jesus Christ the Old Testament scriptures have no meaning.

You have a lot of priests running around. You have animals being shed. You have different promises and prophecies. You have a Tabernacle, a Holy of Holies, a Mercy Seat, Atonement, rocks being smitten and water coming out of them. You have an Ark made that floated on the Sea of Judgment. You have all of these things. You have the Scapegoat, bullocks and rams, and all of these things. But, these have no meaning without Jesus Christ. There is no value or meaning to us whatsoever.

Where is the Temple right now, today? Where is your Temple? Where is your Tabernacle? Where is your High Priest? Where is your Mercy Seat? Where is your Atonement? Where is your Prophet? You see, you have none. You have no Tabernacle. We have no High Priest. We have no Mercy seat.

God said, *“I’ll meet you at the Mercy Seat. There at the mercy seat, over the Ark, over the broken law, between the cherubim’s; My glory will be revealed and I will meet you at the Mercy Seat.”* Where is your Mercy Seat? *“I’ve given you the blood upon the altar to make an atonement for your soul.”* Where is our atonement? Where is the Prophet?

Well, the answer to all those questions is found in Hebrews. Here, all of it is revealed. The only thing that the Old Testament has to say about the Christ, about the Redeemer, about the Messiah, is right here in the Book of Hebrews. That is why I say, if I had the whole world as an audience, that is what I would preach, the Book of Hebrews.

Let’s turn to Hebrews 1:1. Let’s just begin right there. It begins with God. That is the way the Old Testament began, *“In the beginning God.”* That is the way the Book of Hebrews begins. *“God who at different times and in various ways spake in times past to our fathers by the prophets.”* In other words, the Old Testament in times past, in the Old Testament days, *“God spoke to the fathers by the prophets.”* God spoke to the prophets and the prophets spoke to the fathers.

Who were these prophets? The scripture says, *“God, in times past, in different ways, spoke to our fathers by the prophets.”* Who are these prophets? Well, there was Moses, Samuel, Abraham, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. These men were the prophets. Well, what did God speak about when God spoke to our fathers by the prophets? What did the prophets speak? What did they say? They spoke of the Messiah. They spoke about the Christ. They spoke about the Redeemer.

Christ said, *“Moses wrote of Me.”* He said, *“If you would have believed Moses, you would have believed Me; Moses wrote of Me.”* What was the subject of Moses’ message? He was talking about the Messiah, the Christ, and the Redeemer. That was Job’s message and Abraham’s message. What was Abraham’s message? *“Abraham rejoiced to see My day. He saw it and was glad.”* What was David’s message? *“David spake concerning Him.”* That was David’s message, He spake concerning Him. In other words, Acts 10:43 sums it up by saying, to Christ, to the Messiah, to the Redeemer, *“give all the prophets witness.”*

Let me show you a scripture in Luke 24:27. Our Lord Jesus Christ had been crucified, buried and had risen. He had walked along the road to Emmaus with those disciples and then this verse of scripture, this word was spoken, *“And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, (Moses, Samuel, Elijah, Elisha), He expounded unto them in all the scriptures in all the Old Testament the things concerning Himself.”* Moses wrote Genesis, Exodus and so forth. God in different ways in different times spoke to our fathers by the prophets, (Moses, Samuel, Abraham and all the prophets).

What was their message? Their message was Christ and Him crucified. In Isaiah it says, *“He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; by His stripes we are healed.”*

“God spoke to our fathers by these prophets” and He spoke concerning Christ. How did God speak concerning Christ? In what way did He reveal Christ Jesus, the Messiah, the Redeemer to these fathers of ours in the Old Testament? Well, first of all, by promises. The Old Testament is full of promises and prophecies.

God said, *“The seed of woman will bruise the serpent’s head.”* That is a promise. In Isaiah it says, *“Behold, the Lord Himself will give you a sign, a virgin will be with Son and Thy shalt call His name, Immanuel, God with us.”* Isaiah 9:6 says this, *“Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given and the government shall be on His shoulders. His name shall be called Wonderful, Councilor, the Mighty God the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.”* God will raise up a prophet. The scepter, the rod, the rule, shall not depart from Judah, the tribe of Judah, until Shiloh comes.

In other words, if you will go back to the Old Testament, Hebrews will show you this, you can trace Christ, the seed of woman, the seed of Abraham from the family of Jesse, from the tribe of Judah, and from the house and lineage of David. You can trace Christ as a Prophet like Moses, a Priest like Melchizedek, and a King like David. He has promised and prophesied through the whole Old Testament. That is what He said, *“Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the scriptures, the things concerning Himself.”*

How else did God speak to our fathers concerning Christ? He spoke in the sacrifices. He spoke as the Passover Lamb. What is the meaning of the Passover Lamb? The blood of an animal cannot put away the sin of a man. You don't think that a Holy God can be satisfied with a death of a little lamb and the shedding of its blood for the sins of a man, do you? Well, what does that Passover Lamb tell us? That Passover Lamb is Christ in picture. God spoke to the fathers by the prophets in promises, in prophecies and in pictures.

That Passover Lamb was the firstling of the flock. Christ is the first born of every creature. He was in the prime of life, a year old. Christ died at 33 years of age. He was without spot or blemish. Christ was without sin. The lamb was put up for four days and observed to make sure that there was no spot or blemish. Our Lord lived on this earth, under the trial of the law, under the trial of men, under the trial of God and under the temptation of Satan. There was found no sin in Him.

Then, the Lamb was slain. His blood was shed. That is a picture of our Lord. That Rock in the wilderness is a picture of Christ. When Moses smote the rock, water came out. Christ is smitten. Blood and water came out of His side. He was the Scapegoat in the wilderness. That is a picture of Christ. The High Priest would put his hands on the head of the scapegoat and confess the sins of Israel and then they would lead that scapegoat out into the wilderness. They would leave it and it would never return. Christ bore our sins away. They will never come back.

On the Day of Atonement, when the High Priest went under the veil, into the Holy of Holies and put the blood on the Mercy Seat, this pictures Christ as our Mercy Seat. Christ is our Priest and Christ is our Atonement.

So, *“God spoke to our fathers by the prophets.”* He gave them promises; He gave them prophecies; He gave them pictures and then He gave them types. Do you remember when those fiery serpents bit all the people and Moses cried to God and said, *“What are we going to do?”* God said, *“We'll make a serpent of brass, just like the ones that have*

bitten the people and raise it up on a pole.” Moses did; He made a serpent of brass, just like the ones that had bitten the people and lifted it up. Whosoever looked lived. Christ said Himself, *“As Moses lifted up that serpent in the wilderness, even so, must the Son of man be lifted up, and that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*

There were the cities of refuge. Do you know what they are all about? Do you remember that there were several cities called, “Cities of refuge?” If a man accidentally killed a fellow and he was fleeing from the avenger, he could go into that city of refuge. He was safe. Christ is our refuge, the Priest, the Intercessor.

I will tell you this, my generation is not going to understand the Old Testament scriptures until our preachers begin themselves to open the Word of God and study the scriptures. They have to study the Old Testament in the light of the Lord Jesus Christ, fulfilling it all. That’s exactly right! Someone is going to have to get their Bible and see how Christ fulfills all of these scriptures.

You see, in Luke 24, our Lord went on and said to them; *“These are the Words that I spake unto you while I was yet with you, before I went to the cross, that all things must be fulfilled which are written in Moses, in the Psalms and in the prophets, concerning Me. Then, He opened their understanding that they might understand the scriptures.”* This is the key to understanding the scriptures. All these things written in the Old Testament, in the prophets, in Moses and in the Psalms are concerning Christ Jesus.

Christ Jesus is our High Priest, our Redeemer, and our Sacrifice. He said, *“Thus it is written and thus it behoved Christ to rise again the third day. God spake to our fathers by the prophets.”* His message was Christ.

Watch this in verse 2: *“He hath in these last days, spoken to us by His Son.”* What are the last days? What do *“these last days”* mean? Well, there were 2,000 years from Adam to the giving of the Law. There were 2,000 years from the giving of the Law until Christ came, the Messiah. Now, since the Messiah, we’ve been in the last days. All of the apostles talked about the last days. They would say, “These are the last days since Christ died on the cross.” So, in these last days, *“God has spoken to us by His Son.”*

Who is this Son? Well, the Lord Jesus Christ is His Son. He said, *“This is My beloved Son.”* Jesus of Nazareth is His Son. *“This is My Son in whom I am well pleased. This is My Son, hear ye Him.”* He is the Son of God, and He is the Son of man. The Lord tells us who He is in these next verses. He tells us, who He is, what He did, when He did it

and where He is now. Listen, *“God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but He has in these last days spoken to us by His Son.”*

Watch this, *“Whom He hath appointed Heir of all things.”* That is who the Son is. *“He is the Heir of all things.”* Everything in heaven and earth belongs to Jesus Christ. He said, *“All authority is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. I have all power over all flesh. The Father loveth the Son and hath given all things into His hands. In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and in the fullness of time, God will gather together all things in Christ.”* He is the Heir of all things.

If you and I participate in any of these things, we are going to have to be a joint-heir with Christ. We have to be united with Him. So, *“In these last days God has spoke to us by His Son whom He hath appointed Heir of all things by whom He made the worlds.”* Jesus Christ is the Creator. He is the Eternal God. He is the Everlasting Father. He is the Prince of Peace.

He is the Word of God, *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God and all things were made by Him. Without Him was not anything made that was made.”* Listen to Colossians, *“By Him were all things created that are in heaven, that are in earth. He is before all things and by Him all things are held together. He is the Head of the body, the church. He is the First born from the dead that by all things He might have preeminence.”* Who is He?

“He is the brightness of God’s glory. He is the express image of God’s person.” He said, *“He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father.”* He said, *“I and My Father are one.”* He is a revelation of God’s glory; *“He is the exact image of His person; He’s the one by whom all things are held together.”* That is who He is. That is what it says here.

In the Old Testament, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets. Now, He hath spoken to us by His Son. By whom He made the worlds. He is the Heir of all things Who is the brightness of His glory, the express image of His person?

Watch this next verse. What did He do to gain such preeminence? What did He do to gain such glory? What did He do to gain such exaltation? *“When He had by Himself purged our sins; He sat down on the right hand of God.”* What did He do? He did it by Himself.

Here is the good news, *“It was done by Himself.”* Redemption is the un-aided work of Jesus Christ. It was a solo performance. It was the royal bath in which the black souls are washed white, and was drained from the veins of the Son of God. One Host, the Lord

of Glory, serves the banquet of mercy up. You come; everything is ready. *“By Himself, He purged our sins.”*

Why don't I believe in purgatory? The reason is because the blood of Christ has purged all of our sins. They have been purged, paid for, put away and satisfied. *“By one offering He perfected forever them that are sanctified. He who knew no sin was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. Christ has suffered for sins, the just for the unjust that He might bring us to God.”*

Where is He now? The scripture says, *“when He had by Himself purged our sins, He sat down on the right hand of God.”* He is not pacing the road; He is not pacing the streets of glory, and He is not pacing the balcony of glory. He is not disturbed, frustrated and disappointed by what is going on. He is a satisfied Saviour who finished what He came to do. He redeemed His people and He sat down.

Your relationship with God Almighty depends totally, on your attitude toward His Son. That is the way it is. *“God, who spake to our fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days.”* These are the last days and this is the last prophet. This is the last message and this is the last call. *“He hath spoken to us by His Son. I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father but by Me.”* He said, *“There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.”* He also said, *“Other foundation can no man lay which is laid.”*

“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life. He that believeth not the Son shall never see life but the wrath of God abideth on him. This is the record, God hath given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son of God hath life and He that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things are written to you who believe on the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life and that you may believe on the name of Son of God.”

“Who is He that condemneth;” it is Christ who died? Yea, rather is risen again who also has ascended to heaven and ever lives to make intercession for us.” Do you see what I am saying; these are just the first four verses of Chapter One that I have been talking about? All of these Chapters go through the same way, revealing how that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, He's the Christ, He's the Redeemer and He is the fulfillment of every picture, prophecy, promise, pattern, type, Priest and Tabernacle in the Old Testament.

We have a Tabernacle and it is Christ. We have a Priest and it is Christ. We have the Atonement and it is Christ.

