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□ The Exaltation of Christ

Ephesians 1:20-23 (NIV):

*“He exerted [His power] when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked—not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.”*

Theological Note:

This is known as the session of Christ—His being seated at the right hand of God. Biblically and historically, this position symbolizes supreme authority and divine enthronement (cf. Psalm 110:1). Christ reigns over all spiritual and earthly powers. His name is superior to every title, whether in heaven, on earth, or under the earth (Phil. 2:9-11).

□ Jesus Christ: King of Kings and Lord of Lords

## 1 Timothy 6:15-16 (ESV):

*“He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.”*

### Theological Note:

Only God possesses inherent immortality (ἀθανασία, *athanasia* in Greek). This reminds us of Jesus' divine nature. The reference to "unapproachable light" echoes Exodus 33:20—"no one can see My face and live." Jesus is not just glorified; He is the eternal, self-existing, sovereign God (cf. John 1:1, Colossians 1:15-20).

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□♂ He Is Not Ordinary — He Is Fire!

When Jesus first came, He came humbly—as a servant (Phil. 2:7). But today, He is enthroned in glory, and He will never again

return as a suffering servant. He is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29), and we must treat Him with reverence and awe.

*Even mighty angels and celestial beings tremble in His presence.*

*He dwells in heavenly realms inaccessible to man or angel.*

*This is not someone to treat casually—He is Holy.*

Philippians 2:6-11 (NASB):

*“Although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself...*

*He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—death on a cross.*

*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name...*

*So that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God*

*the Father.”*

### Theological Note:

This passage is a cornerstone of Christological theology—Jesus is both fully God and fully man. His exaltation is not a reward for suffering, but the public declaration of His divine identity and authority.

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□ Jesus: Supreme Over All Creation

Let us not be deceived by human portrayals of Christ in plays, dramas, or casual speech. He is the supreme ruler over heaven, earth, and the underworld (Revelation 1:18).

□ Nothing happens without His permission:

- No angel acts without His command
- No demon operates without His permission
- No ruler rises or falls unless He allows it
- Even Satan must ask for permission before acting (cf. Job 1:6-12; Luke 22:31)

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□ ♂ Warning Against Spiritual Deception

Some claim to contact the dead through ancestral spirits. But the Bible is clear:

*Hebrews 9:27 (NIV):*

*“People are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.”*

The “spirit” they encounter is not the deceased but a familiar spirit, a demon impersonating their loved one. Only Jesus has authority over the dead.

*Romans 14:9 (ESV):*

*“For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.”*

Even earthly rulers are placed by God, not by popular vote alone.

*Proverbs 16:4 (NIV):*

*“The Lord works out everything to its proper end—even the wicked for a day of disaster.”*

*Lamentations 3:37-38 (ESV):*

*“Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it? Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that both good and bad come?”*

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□ All Creation Submits to Christ

Animals, nature, seasons—everything operates under His word.

- Rain falls only at His command (Job 36:27-33)
- The sea obeys Him (Matthew 8:27)
- Mountains tremble before Him (Nahum 1:5)

Creation groans and waits for its renewal under Christ (Romans 8:19-22).

□ The Millennial Reign of Christ (Revelation 20:1-6)

## When Jesus returns to reign for 1,000 years:

- Earth will resemble Eden (Isaiah 11:6-9)
- The sea will be removed (Revelation 21:1)
- More land will emerge; more nations will form
- Technology, peace, and righteousness will flourish
- Christ's throne will be in Jerusalem, and the whole world will worship Him

*Zechariah 14:9 (NIV):*

*“The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and His name the only name.”*

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□ Those Who Overcome Will Reign With Him

## Revelation 3:20-21 (NIV):

*“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock... To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with Me on My throne,*

*just as I was victorious and sat down with My Father on His throne.”*

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† What Is “The Way” of Jesus?

John 14:6 (NIV):

*“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

Luke 9:23-24 (ESV):

*“If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”*

The cross is not a symbol of comfort, but a symbol of dying to self and living for Christ. Like Jesus, we must:

- Endure shame
- Be rejected
- Suffer persecution (Philippians 1:29)
- Forsake popularity (Matthew 10:38-39)

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□ Reject the Easy Gospel

Any gospel that offers:

- Comfort without holiness
- Prosperity without sanctification
- Assurance without repentance

Is not the gospel of Christ.

*2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV):*

*“Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.”*

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□ Final Call: What Is Your Cross?

Is your cross simply hoping Jesus helps your business, family, or health, while you live in compromise?

Or is it:

- Abandoning worldly fashion and vanity?
- Letting go of idols and traditions for the truth?
- Following Christ, even when friends and family mock you?

*Matthew 10:32-39 (NIV):*

*“Whoever acknowledges Me before others, I will also acknowledge before My Father in heaven. But whoever disowns Me before others, I will disown before My Father in heaven... Whoever does not take up their cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.”*

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□ Let Us Overcome!

Let us carry our cross daily. Let us not seek to blend in with the world.

Let us suffer with Him now—so that we may reign with Him later.

*To Him be glory, honor, and praise forever and ever.  
Hallelujah!*

□ THEREFORE, GOD EXALTED HIM HIGHLY

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