



# **MATTHEW**

The Savior-King and His Kingdom

## **The King's Question!**

**Matthew 22:41-46**

Message #64 of 80 – S1099

**Sermon given on June 2, 2024**



Sunday Morning Service

**Pastor Rick Lancaster**

# The King's Question!

**Matthew 22:41-46**

## Opening Comments

- Open your Bibles to **Matthew 22**
- Today, we continue a series through the gospel of Matthew – **The Savior-King and His Kingdom**
- Let's open this time in our service with a word of prayer. - **Pray**

## Teaching

- **The King's Question!**
  - Chapter 22 began with three challenges Jesus faces just days before He goes to the cross.
  - All three were meant to trap Jesus in His words.
  - This chapter ends with Jesus asking them a question.
  - We will look at the question and seek to understand what it means and then we look at why this question is still relevant almost two-thousand years later.
  - **Matthew 22:41-42**
  - Jesus is just a couple of days away from the cross.
  - Repeatedly in the gospels Jesus told people not to broadcast who He was to others, even demons.
  - But now, it is time for them to understand who they are talking to.
  - 'Christ' – Means Messiah or Anointed One from God.'
  - The hope of all Jews was the arrival of the Messiah.
  - For over three years Jesus has been ministering and doing the things the Bible said the Messiah would do.
  - John the Baptist sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus if He was the Coming One [the Messiah].
  - Luke records His response (**Luke 7:22-23**).
- Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that *the* blind see, *the* lame walk, *the* lepers are cleansed, *the* deaf hear, *the* dead are raised, *the* poor have the gospel preached to them. <sup>23</sup> And blessed is *he* who is not offended because of Me."
- 'The Son of David.'" – This is exactly the answer Jesus expected them to give.

- All Jews were raised to believe the Messiah would come as a descendant of King David.
- And they imagined that Messiah would be like David and defeat their Goliath – the Roman Empire.
- Just days earlier the crowds declared had cried out, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” as Jesus rode into Jerusalem.
- That was the easy question.
- **Matthew 22:43-44**
- There are a few things to notice in these verses.
- Jesus quotes Psalm 110:1 and says David was speaking ‘in the Spirit’.
- That means that these were not David’s words, but God inspired him to say it. These are God’s words!
- Notice also, in verse 44 the two uses of the word Lord.
- In the original Greek they are both translated as ‘kurios’.
- But notice, in the NKJV, the words are represented differently.
- That is because they are referring to two different Hebrew words from Psalm 110 – Yahweh/Jehovah and Adonai.
- It would read, ‘Yahweh said to my Adonai...’
- Yahweh is only ever used to refer to God Almighty.
- Kurios is often used for God also, but not always.
- David, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit speaks of two Lords.
- This is also stated in the present tense.
- This means that it was true at the time of David, which points to the preexistence of the Messiah.
- Jesus then asks them to explain the meaning of Psalm 110:1
- **Matthew 22:45**
- How can Adonai be the Son of David?
- In Jewish culture the father is always greater than the son.
- There is no natural way that David could refer to his natural descendants as his Lord!
- Jesus is saying that the human Son of David is also the divine Son of God (**Matthew 3:17**).

**And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

- That truth was announced by God at Jesus’ baptism.

- That was a theological step the Pharisees were unwilling to take.
- The Jewish understanding of the Messiah was that He would be a man born in the kingly line of David, but no different than any other man (**Jeremiah 23:5-6a**).

“Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. <sup>6</sup> In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely...”

- He was just a man chosen by God to be the Messiah and empowered by the Spirit of God to save them from their enemies.
- Jesus is saying that the Messiah is more than just a descendant of David, He is also God.
- That was communicated in the rest of the quote from (**Jeremiah 23:6b**).

Now this is His name by which He will be called: **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

- The word LORD in that verse is the Hebrew word that we get the words Yahweh or Jehovah from.
- This is referring to the doctrine of the Incarnation of Christ.
- God the Son existed with God from eternity (**John 1:1-2**)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.

- And... (**Revelation 1:8**).

“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.”

- To save humanity from its sin, God the Son stepped down out of heaven and took on human flesh by being born of the virgin Mary (**John 1:14**).

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- The incarnation of Christ is one of the foundational doctrines of the church.
- It is one of the doctrines that determines salvation.
- We must believe that Jesus was, is, and will always be God the Son.
- We must also believe that He took on human flesh and lived a perfect life as a man.
- Because it is only His death as the Son of God in human flesh that makes a way for our sins to be forgiven (**1 John 3:5**).

**And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.**

- And the only way to be saved is to believe that Jesus died for your sins and that His blood makes you right with God.
- Only faith in the atoning sacrifice of Christ Jesus can save you (**Ephesians 2:8-9**).

**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

- Jesus is trying to show them that their own Scriptures point to the truth that the Messiah is the Son of God.
- They don't have a response to Jesus' question.
- **Matthew 22:46**
- The Pharisees understood what Jesus was saying and they had no rebuttal.
- Jesus confronted them with the truth from their own Scriptures and they were left speechless.
- They couldn't argue against what Jesus said but it was so contrary to what they believed and had been taught that they couldn't accept it.
- "What do you think about the Christ?"
- This is a question we all must ask ourselves and be prepared to answer.
- Someday, everyone on earth will stand before God and must answer that question.
- And only those who have put their faith in Christ will be allowed into heaven.
- Paul, in his introduction to the book of Romans gave us a clear description of what we believe (Romans 1:1-4).

**Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God <sup>2</sup> which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.**

- There are some things that we can disagree on about Jesus or the things He said or did.
- These things will not keep someone out of heaven.
- But there are some things that are so important that if you don't believe them will prevent you from being saved.

- If someone were to ask you, “What do you think about the Christ?”
- Can you give them an answer?
- Jesus is the divine Son of God.
- Jesus was, is, and will always be God!
- Jesus, God the Son, stepped down out of heaven and was born as a human child.
- Jesus was 100% Man while at the same time was 100% God.
- Jesus came to the earth to die for the sins of the whole world.
- Jesus came to die for our sins because we are sinners, and we couldn’t save ourselves from our sin.
- Jesus died on that wicked wooden cross so that my sins might be forgiven.
- It is by faith in those truths that anyone who puts their trust in Christ will have their sins forgiven and receive the promise of eternal life in heaven.
- There are a lot of strange things that people choose to believe in this world.
- Many of those things may include a promise of pleasure, or peace, or fulfillment, or power, or something else.
- Only faith in Christ, in the reality of who He is, who the Bible clearly teaches He is can save them.
- And the Bible teaches us that nothing else in the world matters if we are not saved (**Matthew 16:26**).

**For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?**

- The world clings to the false promises of earthly things.
- We cling to the exceedingly great and precious promises of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
- As the worship Team makes their way up here, take a moment and reflect on what you think about Jesus.
- Do you believe the things I just said about Him?
- If not, come see me and let’s talk about it.
- And as you do that, remember, He’s thinking about you.
- **Pray!** Worship Team plays the last song!