"Jesus our Bridegroom, King and Judge"

"JESUS, OUR SOVEREIGN KING"

I) THE END-TIME REVELATION OF JESUS, AS OUR BRIDEGROOM, KING AND JUDGE

- A) As we approach the end of the age it's clear that the Holy Spirit is awakening hearts to a greater revelation of Jesus Christ as Bridegroom, King and Judge. This threefold revelation of Jesus is not random but very strategic as God is preparing a people for the season of His return (Matt. 13:24-30,37-43).
- B) The scriptures reveal hundreds of titles for God, with each revealing different facets of His personality, but these three (Bridegroom, King and Judge) will have a preeminence as the Holy Spirit emphasizes them in an unusual way above the others.
 - 1) As the <u>Passionate Bridegroom</u> Jesus feels <u>burning desire</u>, <u>deep delight</u> and <u>jealous affection</u> for His people. This revelation empowers us to have confidence in love before Him, though we still struggle with sin (Rev. 1:5,13,14).
 - 2) As the <u>Sovereign King</u> Jesus has received all power to <u>restore</u>, <u>renew</u> and <u>rule</u>. This revelation of <u>His authority</u>, <u>abilities</u> and <u>resources</u> empowers us to come before Him as a kingdom of priests in fervent intersession for His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matt. 6:9-13; Rev. 1:5,6,13).
 - 3) As the <u>Righteous Judge</u> Jesus possesses infinite wisdom and zeal to intervene in human history. This revelation of Jesus will produce forerunner messengers who are gripped by the urgency of the hour and for the sake of love they will prepare themselves by <u>knowing His heart</u>, <u>His power</u> and <u>His plans</u> so that they can prepare others to prevail through the unique dynamics and unprecedented events at the end of this age (Dan. 11:31-33; 12:1; Matt. 24:21; Rev. 1:14,15,16).
- C) To understand <u>Jesus as Bridegroom</u> without seeing Him as the King with all power can lead to religious emotionalism without deep obedience to His authority and that lacks faith in His abilities.
- D) To understand <u>Jesus as King</u> without seeing Him as a Bridegroom with burning desire can lead to an authoritarian view of God or to a misunderstanding of why He releases His power through us. Jesus wants more than a people blessed (\$, comfort, honor), He wants to express love *for us* and awaken love *in us*.
- E) To understand <u>Jesus as Judge</u> without seeing Him as a Bridegroom-King can lead to a harsh view of God or a misunderstanding of why He releases judgment. He isn't just mad, but in infinite wisdom He is working off of an eternal blueprint to establish truth, humility and righteousness forever (Ps. 45).

II) JESUS, OUR SOVEREIGN KING POSSESSES TRANSCENDENT POWER

- A) As the sovereign King with transcendent power, Jesus possess all authority and all ability to fully establish the Kingdom of God and manifest the Father's will on earth as it is in heaven (Mat. 6:10; Rev. 8:3-5).
- B) As God, Jesus has always had all authority in the heavens (Ps. 115:16). His authority as King over all the nations of the earth however relates to His obedience to the Father's will as a fully submitted Man. Originally, Adam was the first man granted authority over the entire earth (Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 115:16), but he forfeited that authority to the devil when he sinned in disobedience to God's will (Gen. 3; Luke 4:6). Jesus, the second Adam, won back what Adam originally failed to do in subduing the earth unto the Father's will and taking full dominion for the glory of God (Gen. 1:26-28; 1 Cor. 15:45, 47; Mt. 28:18; Rev. 5:1-7).
- C) In the book of Revelation we see King Jesus, the Lion of Judah, prevailing in His earthly assignment to do His Fathers will, even being obedient to death (Ps. 40:6-8; Heb. 10:5-7; Rev. 5:1-10). Because of this, only Jesus

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was found worthy to receive the scroll—the *title deed* to the earth (authority) and the *action plan* (resource, ability) to fully restore the nations in preparation for the age to come (Rev. 5:3-4).

- 1) Revelation 5:9 "And they sang a new song saying, "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open it's seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation."
- D) The unequaled measure of Jesus' *authority*, *ability* and *resource* is related to the matchless depth of His humility (**Phil 2:5-11**). No man will ever be as exalted, because no man will ever go as low, due to beginning so high. Our authority is also directly related to our submission to the Father's will (**Lk. 19:17**).
- E) Jesus not only possesses the fullness of the Godhead bodily (2nd Cor. 4:6; Col. 1:19; 2:9) and is fully anointed by the Holy Spirit without measure (Jn. 3:34; Rev. 3:1; 5:6) but He has been fully endorsed and commissioned by the Father with all the resources of heaven to fulfill His sovereign purpose on earth.

III) JESUS 'SECOND COMING -A ROYAL ESCHATOLOGICAL PROCESSION

- A) Contrary to popular belief, at Jesus' return He's not coming to go away, but rather coming to stay. And when He does, the Kingdom of heaven is coming with Him to the earth forever (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 21:3,10).
 - 1) Ephesians 1:9-10, 15-18

 "...having (already) made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself...He might together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him (Christ)...therefore...making mention of you in my prayers: that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know the hope of His calling..."
- B) The Father's desire has always been to dwell in unhindered face-to-face communion with His people in the paradise like conditions of the Garden of Eden on earth forever (Rev. 21:3; 22:4)! The centerpiece of God's eternal purpose is the full convergence of the heavens and the earth, as it was in the beginning and beyond. What was lost in Genesis 1-3 is found in Revelation 20-22 (1st Cor. 15:46).
- C) Jesus' triumphant return to the planet as King of Kings is not a "secret event" (Mt. 24:23-27; Heb. 9:28), but a royal eschatological procession for all to see (Ps. 19:1-6; 68:24, 32-33; Zach 9:9-10; Rev. 19:11-6). At the sounding of the seventh trumpet (Rev. 11:15-19), Jesus will come with all the saints (1st Thess. 3:13) and all the angels (Mat. 25:31), traveling on clouds around the entire earth for all to see (Ps. 19: 1-6; Mt. 24:30). He will descend with a great shout (1st Thess. 4:16), the voice of an archangel and the trump of God, as He comes in His Fathers glory (Mt. 16:27), golden splendor (Job 37:22) and great power (Mk. 13:26), traveling in the brightness and beauty of lightening (Mt. 24:27; 2nd Thess. 2:8), as flaming fire engulfs the darkened sky (2nd Thess. 1:8), while He raises the dead, raptures the Church, delivers captives and destroys His enemies (Rev. 19:20-21).

IV) JESUS' ROYAL PROCESSION—THREE STAGES

- A) <u>Stage—1</u>: Jesus' procession travels <u>across the sky</u> on clouds to rapture the saints seen by every eye, as His Kingship is announced and asserted over every nation (Ps. 19:1-4; Mt. 24:30-31; Mk. 13:26-27; Rev. 1:7).
 - 1) **Revelation 1:7** "Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen!"
- B) <u>Stage—2:</u> Jesus' royal procession marches up <u>through the land</u> delivering the captives, as He destroys (executes) His enemies on the way to the Mount of Olives (Deut. 33:2; Ps. 45:3-5; 110:5-6; Isa. 11:11-16; 27:12-13; 34; 61:1-6; Mic. 7:15; Hab. 3; Zech. 9:11-7;14:1-9).

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- 1) **Ps. 110:5-6** <u>"The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries."</u>
- C) Stage—3: Jesus descends from the Mount of Olives, triumphantly entering into Jerusalem to be crowned "King over all the earth." Jesus rescues a remnant of Israel as Moses split the red sea (Zech. 14:1-9; Rom. 11:25-28).
 - 1) **Psalm 24:7-8** <u>"Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the king of</u> Glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle."

V) UNDERSTANDING JESUS' 1,000—YEAR MILLENNIAL REIGN ON EARTH

- A) As king, Jesus will establish righteousness, peace and truth in the nations (Ps. 45:5-6; Isa. 9:6-7) during the "restoration of all things" (Acts 3:21), called the *millennium*. He will do this by healing *individual lives* (minds, emotions, bodies, motives and wills), restoring *families* (Mal. 4:5-6), reviving the Church (unity, purity, power), transforming *society* (Dan. 7:13-14, 27; Rev. 11:15), and restoring the *created order* (Acts 3:21).
- B) The "Millennium" (Latin 'mille' a thousand) is a literal 1,000-year period when Jesus will be crowned as "King over all the earth" (Zech. 14:9) and rule the nations, as the Greater "Son of David" upon His throne of Glory from the city of Jerusalem (2nd Sam. 7:1-17; Ps. 132:11-18; Isa. 9:6-7; 16:5; Jer. 23:5-6; Lk. 1:31-33). John the Beloved received incredible insight from the Holy Spirit about the millennial reign of Christ (6x Rev. 20).
 - 1) **Isaiah 9:6** <u>"For unto us a Child I born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever."</u>
 - 2) **Luke 1:31** "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."
- C) In the Millennium Jesus will receive an unprecedented measure of favor in 7 specific spheres of life. The key to understanding this passage is in Jesus' ability, as a *resurrected human King*, to "receive" this directly from the Father and through the collective grace of the Holy Spirit upon His people. The Lamb who was "worthy" to *give everything* for the sake of all is now "worthy" to *receive everything* for the sake of the all.
 - 1) Revelation 5:11-12 <u>"Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels...and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand (100,000,000), and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice; Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"</u>
 - (i) Power—All the political power and authority to govern every national government.
 - (ii) Riches—All the financial wealth and resources of both heaven and earth to execute His plan.
 - (iii) Wisdom—All the wisdom of the Spirit and collective insight of His people for His purpose.
 - (iv) Strength—An infinite supply of spiritual & emotional stamina, as He directs the strength of the nations.
 - (v) Honor—The most sought out Man throughout the nations as He receives the utmost relational honor.
 - (vi) Glory—Every knee will bow and every tongue confess, as He receives all the glory due His name.
 - (vii) Blessing—An unprecedented blessing from the Father and all the people for His purpose/plan.

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D) At this time the Kingdom will be openly manifest worldwide affecting every sphere of life (Spiritual, Political, Judicial, Social, Financial, Educational, Technological and Environmental). Jesus will take legal dominion over every sphere of society in every nation of the earth in partnership with the saints. His Kingdom is comprehensive, everlasting and incorruptible (Dan. 7:13-14, 18, 22, 27; Rev. 11:15-19; Rev. 19). This is a hostile take over.

VI) MATURE PARTNERSHIP WITH JESUS THAT CHANGES HISTORY

- A) As we grow in the knowledge of Jesus' heart for us as a Bridegroom we are empowered by love to approach Him with confidence (Song of Songs 1:5; Heb. 4:16). As we gain greater insight into Jesus' power as a King we are strengthened in faith to contend for His will through fervent intersession (1st Jn. 5:14).
- B) Understanding Jesus' power and plans as King is very practical today because it not only strengthens our faith in His abilities, but also our resolve to contend for nothing less than His best for us, our families and nation. **Principle:** What God will do in *fullness then*, He will do in *part now* if we ask! Our prayers determine the quality of life that we can experience in the grace of God right now (Joel 2:12-17; Hab. 2:14).
- C) Many are content to live far below God's highest and best simply because they do not pray (Isa. 30:18-19; Ezek. 22:30; Jas. 4:2). Prayer is much more than just thinking about our problems or complaining about our circumstances to our friends.
- D) To attain the fullness of God's sovereign desire and original design for our lives we must speak to God (Hos. 14:2). God will not do our part and we cant do His part. If we don't do our part in intersession, some of the sovereignly ordained blessing that God would have joyfully given is inaccessible. Think of God's grace (divine empowerment) as billions available by simply co-signing a two-signature check which God has already signed.
 - 1) **Hosea 14:1-2** <u>"O Israel, return to the Lord your God...take words with you, and return to the Lord. Say to Him, Take away all iniquity; receive us graciously, for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips."</u>
 - 2) **Luke 18:7** <u>"And shall not God avenge (release Justice for) His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"</u>