**Not Afraid – We have a King!!**

**Another week of shelter in place – in a lock down culture. The fear that is creeping in is the fear of - Will it always be this way?**

**Will things ever be normal? Sports, concerts, worship, work, conferences, entertainment, hugs - fear of unknown.**

**More contagious than Covid-19 and fear – is HOPE!**

**We’ve been talking about how we do not need to fear for we have peace, we have hope, we have Easter, and today…**

**\*\* We have another reason to not be afraid - We Have A King!**

**With anxiety of the extension of the lock down to possibly May – and what about the following months…?**

**To answer - I want to pick up today right after the resurrection.**

**Jesus spent 40 days meeting people. (Thurs FB video) then told them to go to Jerusalem and wait - then, He ascended.**

**To get to our hope in this season of mystery – we need to understand**

**Where Jesus Right Now.**

**He rose from the dead - now 2000 years later… where is Jesus?**

**Where is Jesus? A few Biblically false concepts…**

* **Bahai – A holy man who died - his spirit is in heaven**
* **Morman – an angel who became a man, who became a god who is eternally impregnating his wives and populating his own planet (hell to women)**
* **Jehovah’s Witness – A created who rose only spiritually, whose spirit came back in 1914 and now rules the earth from the Watchtower headquarters in Pittsburg and Warwik, New York.**
* **Muslims – Was not crucified at all – and is now hanging out in heaven with dozens of perpetual virgins living lavida loca.**
* **Gnostics / New age – Married, moved to France, had kids and died.**
* **Jesus Seminar – Not even buried – his bones where left in a ditch.**
* **Jewish Orthodox – disciples paid solders to steal & lie about body**
* **The wrong tomb theory – they went to the wrong place.**

**Countless cult leaders claim to be Jesus come to earth…**

**John 16:28 - I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."**

**Jesus said many times that He was eternal God from Heaven – to be crucified, buried, and rise. He descended, then ascended**

**But where and what is he doing now?**

**We know of the humble servant Jesus but that is not just who He is!**

**We neglect his current state. The NT speaks of it…**

**To see him today is not to see Mr. Rogers Jesus, but the Ultimate Fighter Revelation 19:11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." (holy king) He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh, he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

**Jesus is the righteous, powerful, holy, just, coming in judgement King!**

**Jesus Is Today The Exalted Coming King!**

**A lot of men find it hard to worship Jesus – to follow Jesus – Why follow a man you think you can beat up? Most men are not inspired.**

**Maybe you need to see Jesus the way He is today:**

**To know the real Jesus - is to be in awe and follow!**

**To understand where Jesus is today let’s walk through what happened after the resurrection: 40 days after the resurrection**

**Acts 1:9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.**

* **Jesus physically ascended unto Heaven**

**He is physically alive today in Heaven – He ascended as the son of man, in a human body - He ascended as the son of man**

**glorified and coming back!**

* **Jesus took people with Him into Heaven**

**He did not go alone technically - He opened the gates**

**Ephesians 4:8"When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." 9 (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.**

**Jesus lead a grand opening to heaven - before the resurrection Heaven was closed – until the cross opened the way!!**

**Where is He today???**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus is seated on the Throne**

**Imagery of the LORDS throne: 196X total / 61X in NT – 45X in Rev alone**

**Isaiah (6) Rev (4,5,7,20) declares there is one throne and he who sits on it is the Lamb of God. Jesus is exalted and alone on the throne!**

**But what about sitting at the Right Hand of God? (Acts 7:56, Rom 8:34, Eph 1:20, Col 3:1, Heb 8:10:12, 12:2, 1 Pet 3:22, Rev 3:21, Matt 22:44, Acts 2:33)**

**Hebrews 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power when He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high…**

**Matt 26:63 The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." 64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."** **65Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy!**

**Why does it say He is seated at the right hand of God? Figure of speech that represents all power & authority declaring himself God. In OT it was often a prophetic term for the Messiah.**

**Jesus is right now upon the one throne of heaven with all power & authority. He is the invisible God – made visible for all eternity.**

**In the middle of all this chaos… Jesus is on the throne!**

**Problem is – we put ourselves on the throne…**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus Rules & Reigns as Sovereign, King, and Lord**

**Matt 11:27- "All things have been committed to me by my Father…”**

**John 3:35 - The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands.**

**This is not a future event this is now reality**

**Eph 1:22 - God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church…**

**Jesus rules over all people / all governments / all nations / all circumstances – That is why the early church was martyred.**

**Jesus is not just God for Christians – He is the God of all creation! Whether they or you acknowledge him or not!**

**Acts 10:36 – You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.**

**Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born over-all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.**

**Earthly Jesus – our example / Glorified Jesus – object of our worship**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus is our mediator**

**He is alive – he hears – he moves – he answers – he responds**

**1 Timothy 2:5 - For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.**

**Jesus is both Exclusive and Inclusive**

**Exclusive: the only way - no other options… (problem for many)**

**Jesus said of himself - John 14:16 – I am the way, the truth, and the life…**

**Inclusive: Come all and any- race, gender, the lonely, rich, poor, sinner, saint, sexually confused, addict, abuser, murderer, (problem for many)**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus has seated us (His disciples) in authority w/ Him**

**Eph 2:6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. (present reality and future event)**

**Practically we are seated here - but positionally we are seated with Him – What does that mean for those who follow Jesus?**

**It means we represent him here and that we have power and authority in Him to live and tell the world. You don’t need to be harassed by demons, spirits, dreams, and strongholds**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus takes Christians to heaven upon their death**

**Col 2:5 - To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord**

**John 14:2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.**

**With the death around us - What you can expect in Heaven?**

**He is returning – to take us home. But until then…**

* **RIGHT NOW - Jesus has given us a mission**

**I am going to talk about this next week. We have a purpose to be alive!**

**Where is Jesus today? On the Throne and with you thru the HS**

**If you are his disciple – he has not left you, forsaken, abandoned you.**

**Who sits of the throne of your life?**

**He who sits on the throne of all creation is calling you to surrender**

**You do not make him king; he is already king. We acknowledge his rule and reign and bow to his authority and he receives us thru the cross.**

**When we do we enjoy the benefits of his kingdom.**