

Ruling and Reigning With Christ

The Unique Nature of the Last Days. Iron Mixed with Clay

Jesus said there is a Jezebel Church out there so it is our responsibility to recognize it and deal with it.

There is a reason why we had the Reformation – a religious movement of the 16th century that began as an attempt to reform the Roman Catholic Church and resulted in the creation of Protestant churches. Synonyms: Reformation Type of: religious movement. a movement intended to bring about religious reforms.

The Protestant Reformation was a widespread theological revolt in Europe against the abuses and totalitarian control of the Roman Catholic Church. Reformers such as Martin Luther in Germany, Ulrich Zwingli in Switzerland, and John Calvin in France protested various unbiblical practices of the Catholic Church and promoted a return to sound biblical doctrine. The precipitating event of the Protestant Reformation is generally considered to be Luther's posting of his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Church on October 31, 1517.

The Church was intrusive in many ways. Probably the single most effective weapon the Reformers had was popular resentment of ecclesiastical financial exactions and of the bewildering forest of laws that accompanied them. (Part of the money collected from the preaching of the indulgences in Germany secretly went to a powerful archbishop, to pay for an exemption from the rule prohibiting a bishop from holding more than one see at a time.) The higher clergy possessed ostentatious power and wealth, and many orthodox reformers at the time pointed out that it was hard to see the apostolic fishermen in the mighty, often scandalously worldly, prince-bishops. Catholic Education Resource Center

These five important doctrines are the reason for the Protestant Reformation. The Five Solas are five Latin phrases (or slogans) that emerged during the Reformation to summarize the Reformers' theological convictions about the essentials of Christianity

1. Scripture Alone
2. Salvation by Grace Alone
3. Salvation by Faith Alone
4. In Christ Alone
5. For the Glory of God Alone

To Rule and Reign – What we do Here directly affects our place in the Age to Come.

Revelation 2:26-28 –

He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority (power, authority, weight, especially: moral authority, delegated influence, jurisdiction) over the nations; **27** and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received *authority* from My Father; **28** and I will give him the morning star.

Revelation 11:15 –

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.

Revelation 11:17-18 –

We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign. **18** And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time *came* for the dead to be judged, and *the time* to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the [saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth.”

Rome no longer ruled as a political kingdom as before but influenced all of life through the religious and political spirits. Our reward to true spiritual authority to influence and lead the nations in the age to come.

Rod of Iron – Absolute Authority

True Spiritual Authority Vs Counterfeit Authority The Premise of Salvation:

Ephesians 2:8 – For by grace you have been saved through faith; and]that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; **9** not as a result of works, so that no one may boast

Authority From Below and Authority From Above

John 19:10-11 –

So Pilate *said to Him, “You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?”

11 Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has *the* greater sin.

Revelation 17:18 –

The woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

To Rule and Reign Vs to Serve Him Day and Night

In every age there are those who believe and others who believe and overcome. This is a preparation for a future day when we exercise authority over nations as we rule and reign with Him.

Matt 24:45-46 –

Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? **46** Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. **47** Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

2 Tim 2:10-12 –

For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus *and with it* eternal glory. It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

To Him That Overcomes – Teknon Vs Huios’

Revelation 3:20-21 –

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

21 He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

We are to influence nations now but we rule and reign with Christ in the Age to Come. For the sake of the Harvest. We do not receive the spirit of adoption to become a son; but because we are a son. (Romans 8:15 & 23)

1 John 3:9 –

No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God

Psalms 2:8-9 –

Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.’”

The Doctrine of Rewards – Indulgences Vs Good Works

2 Cor 5:10 –

For we must all appear before (O)the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for [d]his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad

1 Cor 3:12-15 –

Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, **13** each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. **14** If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. **15** If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire

Salvation is the gift of God...what we do after that determines our position in Heaven.

When the Lord returns there must be nations present to rule and peoples to reign over and to judge. The Bride of Christ will sit with the Lord to rule and reign planet earth for 1000 years. Great responsibility and activity.

Revelation 20:6 –

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the (S)second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

The Bright Morning Star

Look not at that which is seen but the unseen.

“Jesus Christ is described as the ‘morning star’ in 2 Peter 1:19 (phosphoros)

2 Peter 1:19

So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

He identifies Himself as ‘the bright morning star’ (ho aster ho lampros ho proninos) in

Revelation 22:16 –

I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

This presents no real problem when we understand that many blessings come incrementally. We are in the kingdom now (Col. 1:13), but there is a more glorious phase to yet be entered (2 Pet. 1:11). We enjoy salvation presently (Mk. 16:16), but there is a greater dimension, a heavenly salvation, to be received at death (2 Tim. 4:18). There is a sense in which we are with Christ now (Mt 18:20; 26:29; 28:20), but there is a more exalted state in which we will be with him ultimately (Phil. 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:8).

The analogy is to the planet Venus, so often seen shining brightly in the early morning. The sight of the planet provides a pledge of the coming day during which the light is brighter and the sight clearer.

Likewise, however beautiful and awe-inspiring our perception is now by the light of our Bright and Morning Star, Jesus Christ, we are promised a more complete view. Although He has "shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6), and although Christ appeared as "the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person" (Hebrews 1:3), soon we shall see Him "face to face" (1 Corinthians 13:12) and even "be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Doctrine of Rewards

It is very evident from the remarks of the Spirit on works that the Lord is trying to get His own to see His opinion of righteous works. Four times He mentions works. And now He says, that he who keeps doing His works faithfully until the end will be given power over nations, and will be a strong, capable, unbending ruler who can cope so powerfully with any situation, that even the most desperate enemy will be broken if need be