

Hebrews 8.1

Gloriously Seated

There is much to consider in the truth that Jesus is SEATED in heaven. That fact should grab our attention and make us ask why He is seated. Seated denotes calm, peace and relaxation. This may be a bit jarring for us in this age and culture. For often we think of the condition of the world around us and it gives us fear and anxiety. Beloved, let me be clear, God is NOT troubled at the condition of the world. These days are ordained, and God is at peace. He is even now honoring Christ for what He has accomplished, during these days and BY these days as Christ is formed in us. All things are for the glory and honor of the Christ who is the very worship of heaven. He is gloriously seated, and for this we ought to praise Him all the more.

I. SEATED

- A. Honor - God has exalted Christ and desires that He be honored as He deserves... so He seated Him on His own mighty right hand. There is no place in all creation which is more honored and revered...

Ephesians 1.17-23

1. Above all power
 2. Above all principality
 3. Above all power and might
 4. Above all dominion
 5. Both now and forever...
- B. Praise and Worship
1. The ongoing and continuing worship of heaven is the praise of the Lamb... He has earned eternal praise and the worship of all creation...

Revelation 5.11-14

- C. Completion
1. The work has been accomplished by Jesus. There remains nothing more for Him to do in relation to our salvation. He has fully completed the sacrifice and the presentation of the offering has been accepted, which is evidenced by the resurrection.

“Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.”

(Romans 4:23–25, NKJV)

D. Rest

1. This is the principle of the Sabbath at its core. The rest promised for the people of God is a direct result of the completion of the work BY God. This is beginning of the Sabbath in Genesis as well as the reason for the fourth commandment...

“For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.” (Exodus 20:11, NKJV)

2. And it is also the pattern and reason for us to hope for our eternal Sabbath, even while we live in troubled and anxious times. God calls us to rest in Him for He Himself is AT rest, he is not troubled nor is He anxious.

“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.” (Hebrews 4:9–10)

E. Anticipation

1. God has accepted everything Jesus did for the purchase of His people. There is work to be fulfilled in regards to the fullness of God's will

and the things which must be accomplished. God will triumph over all His enemies, and this work is ongoing. We need not fear that God is going to allow evil to win... the fact that Christ is seated during the conflict shows us that he is NOT concerned that it won't happen according to the plan...

Psalm 110

F. Glory and majesty... this the blood bought right of the Lamb, but it is also the will and purpose of the Father.

II. OF THE GLORY GIVEN HIM

- A. It is not absolutely infinite and essentially divine glory. For no human could ever be given what is only God's - further the divine cannot be separated from Himself...
- B. But neither is it like unto any other glory. It is unique in all creation No other could ever pretend to have it, nor can any other be made a partaker of that which is Christ's unto eternity.
- C. IT is the absolute pledge of the effective reality of the sacrifice given

D. He makes all things work then for the end of His sacrifice and the price paid will surely be satisfied.

E. Thus the guarantee that all God's chosen will be counted as accepted in the beloved. He makes us acceptable in the sight of God. Without Him, we will never be seen as sufficient.

F. Its primary focus then is to give glory to the office and to the One who holds it for eternity.

III. THE NATURE OF THIS GLORY

A. The throne and Its glory

“who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,” (Hebrews 1:3, NKJV)

1. Right hand of the majesty on High - no mention of the throne...
2. The emphasis being the glory of His kingship and power

“looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured

the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2)

3. Right hand of the throne of God - no mention of Majesty...
4. His exaltation and glory as they are considered in light of His sufferings and purchase of our freedom through them...
5. Here in 8.1, both are added together.
6. The scope is the eternal continuation of His glory in light of the completion of his work.

B. The Lamb and HIS Glory

1. The divine nature of Christ cannot have any glory added to Him, merely the revelation or manifestation of what is already His own proper nature and possession.
2. In a very real manner, the divine nature of Christ was in heaven on His throne during the labor on the earth... consider Jesus' words to Nicodemus...

“No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.” (John 3:13, NKJV)

3. His human nature is capable of and worthy of exaltation, by a real addition of glory. Real

glory was added and communicated to Him after His ascension.

“Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.” (Acts 2:33, NKJV)

4. The very worship of Heaven is the demonstration and declaration of the worthiness of Jesus to receive worship and praise. Remember the song at the Throne which we read earlier...

“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!””
(Revelation 5:12, NKJV)

5. This communication of glory is the manifestation of the love which the Father bears Him. And is the visible reward of His suffering.

“I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” (John 17:23, NKJV)

“Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?”” (Luke 24:26, NKJV)

“Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.” (Acts 5:31, NKJV)

6. It is the specific role of the Priest-King to rule and reign in Glory from the throne of Mercy as He intercedes on behalf of His people.

*“For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.”
(Romans 14:9, NKJV)*

*“which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”
(Ephesians 1:20–23, NKJV)*

7. The Honor God has given Him WILL be manifested by all of creation at the proper time.

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

(Philippians 2:9–11, NKJV)

C. The Glorious All in All

1. God Himself is honored in this as well, for Jesus IS the express image of the Father

“who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,” (Hebrews 1:3, NKJV)

2. This glory all rebounds to God and settles our hope, faith and love on the triune God who Himself and for His own pleasure and glory created us to be redeemed to Himself.

“He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (1 Peter 1:20–21, NKJV)

3. But it is the joy and privilege of the redeemed to worship and honor Him now, with how we live and how we worship.

“looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2) ”