

Sit on My Right Hand. . .

1. **Heb 1:1-3**—After Jesus purged sin and ascended to heaven, He sat down at the right hand of His Father;
2. **Heb 1:13; Heb 8:1-2; Heb 10:12-13; Heb 12:2**—Paul repeats this fact a few more times in the book of Hebrews, showing that this historical event must be tremendously important!
3. **Luke 22:69**—It goes without saying that the act of Christ in sitting at the right hand of God at His ascension imbued Him with great honor, great power and great authority, and was no doubt the reward of fulfilling His mission on earth successfully;
4. Most Christians think that the reason why Jesus sat down at the right hand of His Father at His ascension, was because He had completed everything needed for the salvation of mankind at the cross and now functions as Ruler and Lord of all at the right hand of God's throne:

“Being seated at God’s right hand indicates that the work of redemption is complete and that Christ is actively ruling with God as Lord over all (See v. 13; Heb 8:1; 10:12; 12:2; Eph 1:20; Col 3:1; 1 Pet 3:22)” —editors of the **KJV Study Bible by Zondervan**

5. The amazing thing is, by default, Jesus had every right to sit down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty, being the Son of God, being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person; He did not have to do anything to earn the right to sit at the right hand of the Father;
6. Instead, He labored, He humbled Himself, took the form of a servant, was made in the likeness of men and learned obedience, even unto death, in order to earn the right to sit with His Father in His (Father's) throne! What condescension!
 - a. **Heb 1:3**--after he had himself purged our sins (**Heb 1:3**)
 - b. **John 16:33**--after He overcame (**Rev 3:21; John 16:33**)
 - c. **John 17:4**--after He had finished the work He came to do on earth
7. **Luke 1:32-33**--What is even more amazing is the fact that before His birth, Jesus was promised His own throne (the throne of His Father David);
 - a. **Isa 9:6-7**—hundreds of years before, Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would rule upon David's throne
8. And yet this throne was not given to Him at His ascension; instead Jesus was told by the Father Himself to sit at His right hand (**Heb 1:13**)!

9. In **Heb 1:3** the picture we get is that of the Father sharing His throne with His Son; we do not see Jesus sitting at the throne of His Father David. . .Why?
10. Why did Jesus sit at the right hand of His Father at His ascension? Why was He not given the throne of His Father David?
 - a. Ever obedient to His Father's wishes unquestioningly, Jesus sat down at the right hand of His throne at His ascension and demanded no throne of His own;
11. **IMPORTANT: Heb 1:3** teaches us that this shared arrangement was not to be a permanent one— "until your enemies are made your footstool;" Jesus' place at the right hand of the Father therefore, appears to be a temporary arrangement: ". . .until the enemies of Christ are made His footstool;"
12. The Father's promise to give Jesus the throne of His father David was not to be immediately fulfilled;
13. **IMPORTANT:** There's an interesting parallel between David and Jesus on this point:
 - a. After David was anointed king by the prophet Samuel, David could not immediately receive his throne and kingdom; not until his enemies were taken out (the house of Saul), did David ascend to his throne
 - b. After Jesus was anointed as priest and king in heaven at His ascension, He did not immediately receive His throne and kingdom, either; not until His enemies are made His footstool (vanquished; taken down), will Jesus receive the throne of His Father David and His kingdom which shall have no end!

The Work of Redemption Not Completed at the Cross

14. **IMPORTANT:** the fact that Jesus did not receive His own throne after His ascension shows that the work of redemption is not complete; it is not correct to say that everything needed for salvation was completed at the cross!
15. The work of redemption will not be complete until the enemies of Christ are made "His footstool;" in other words, when His reign is no longer challenged by His enemies;
16. The avowed work of the father is to make Christ's enemies His footstool--- but that will not take place until God brings the enemies of Christ to judgment and pass the sentence of condemnation upon them and takes away their dominion; that in turn, cannot take place as long as the wicked have an excuse to transgress His Law:
 - a. This fact is set clearly in This is explained in Daniel's vision of the judgment in **Dan 7:26-27**;
17. Hence, the work of Christ's priestly ministrations in the heavenly sanctuary is a continuation of the atoning work of Jesus on the cross and is designed to give God the leverage He needs to pass the legal sentence of condemnation on the wicked;
18. The plan of salvation will be completed when sin can no longer be found among God's people:

We may talk of the blessings of the Holy Spirit, but unless we prepare ourselves for its reception, of what avail are our works? Are we striving with all our power to attain to the stature of men and women in Christ? Are we seeking for His fullness, ever pressing toward the mark set before us—the perfection of His character? When the Lord's people reach this mark,

they will be sealed in their foreheads. Filled with the Spirit, they will be complete in Christ, and the recording angel will declare, "It is finished" (RH June 10, 1902). --**6BC 1118**.

Jesus Is High Priest at the Right Hand of God

19. **Heb 8:1-2**—The Lord Jesus's role at the right hand of the Father is that of High Priest, continuing the work He began by making Himself an atoning sacrifice;
 - a. This fact is the "sum" or the main point of what Paul is saying in the book of Hebrews—that there is a high priest sitting at the right hand of the Father with gifts and sacrifices for sin;
20. For some reason, Christians in general find it difficult to wrap their minds around the idea of Jesus officiating in a sanctuary in heaven which they cannot see; they cannot see any relevance of that ministration to their daily experience;
 - i. **Acts 5:31**—both repentance and forgiveness of sin are possible because of Christ's work as High priest in the heavenly sanctuary
 - ii. **Rom 3:25**—raised for our justification
 - iii. **Rom 5:10**—much more saved by His life (as High Priest)
 - iv. **Rom 8:34**—Christ's high priestly work at the right hand of God justifies us from all accusations
 - v. **Heb 2:17-18**—Help is available because of Christ's compassionate and merciful work as High Priest

Upon the throne with the eternal, self-existent One is He who "hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows," who "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin," that He might be "able to succor them that are tempted." "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father." Isaiah 53:4; Hebrews 4:15; 2:18; 1 John 2:1. His intercession is that of a pierced and broken body, of a spotless life. The wounded hands, the pierced side, the marred feet, plead for fallen man, whose redemption was purchased at such infinite cost. **GC 416**.

21. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He told His disciples "I have so many things to tell you, but you cannot bear them now"; could it be that by this statement, Jesus was in reality, alluding to the next phase of His redemptive work, His High Priestly mediatorial work in the heavenly sanctuary, something which His disciples themselves were not prepared to understand--
22. **Heb 5:8-11**--Paul used the same language when trying to explain to His fellow Hebrew converts to Christianity about the priesthood of Christ according to the order of Melchisedek. . .
 - a. "of whom we have so much to say and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing"

If He Were on Earth He Would Not Be Priest. . .

23. **Heb 8:2-5; Heb 5:1-2**—as High Priest, the chief work of Christ is to offer gifts and sacrifices for sin, something He could not do on earth while he was alive! This work had to wait until after His death and resurrection;
 - a. Paul's argument in this passage is, a priest is useless unless he has something to offer for sin;
 - b. Jesus could not be priest on earth because He had nothing (yet) to offer (as long as He was alive on earth)!
 - c. His sacrificial dying on the cross was absolutely needed so He can be Priest with something

to offer—His own blood!!

- d. His death on the cross was not the end of His redemptive work, but rather the beginning of that second phase in the plan of redemption which would span many centuries—the work of High priest in the heavenly sanctuary, offering gifts and sacrifices for sin—through which we derive great material and spiritual benefits!

The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. We must by faith enter within the veil, "whither the forerunner is for us entered." Hebrews 6:20. There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption. The salvation of man is accomplished at an infinite expense to heaven; the sacrifice made is equal to the broadest demands of the broken law of God. Jesus has opened the way to the Father's throne, and through His mediation the sincere desire of all who come to Him in faith may be presented before God. **GC 489.**

24. This vital understanding places the death of Christ on the cross in the correct perspective; it puts it in its proper place in the plan of salvation; His work as atoning sacrifice on the cross does not eclipse, minimize, replace or make void His work as High Priest, as some would like to think; rather it guarantees it! Because once Jesus has something to offer for sin, He is officially High Priest!
25. **Lev 16:30**--When does Jesus receive the throne of His Father David?
 - a. When His work of intercession is over and by virtue of His role as High Priest, make a final atonement in the second apartment of heavenly sanctuary to cleanse His people and the heavenly sanctuary of all sin

He "shall sit and rule upon His throne; and He shall be a priest upon His throne." Not now "upon the throne of His glory;" the kingdom of glory has not yet been ushered in. Not until His work as a mediator shall be ended will God "give unto Him the throne of His father David," a kingdom of which "there shall be no end." Luke 1:32, 33. As a priest, Christ is now set down with the Father in His throne. Revelation 3:21. **GC 416.**

- b. **Dan 8:13-14**—when the sanctuary is cleansed and the wicked no longer trample down the sanctuary and its host; Dan 8:14 is an official announcement that the work of Christ as High Priest is about to end;
 - c. **Heb 1:13, Heb 10:12-13**—the result of this work is that His enemies are brought to judgment, have their dominion taken away and become the footstool of Christ;
 - d. **Rev 14:12**--The final atonement results in a people who are going to perfectly obey God's Law taking away the excuse by the wicked for transgressing it; then and only then will the Father give Him His own throne---when His High Priestly ministration is over;
 - e.
26. **Matt 25:31-32**--When does Jesus actually sit on the throne of His Father David?
 - a. Jesus sits on His throne at His glorious second coming, the sight of all His enemies
 27. **Dan 7:13-14**--When Does Jesus receive His kingdom?

- a. When His work of mediation is ended

"And, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away." --**Daniel 7:13, 14**. The coming of Christ here described is not His second coming to the earth. He comes to the Ancient of Days in heaven to receive dominion and glory and a kingdom, which will be given Him at the close of His work as a mediator. **GC 479-480**.

He That Overcomes Sits with Jesus in His Throne

28. **Rev 3:21**—Jesus will share the throne of His Father with those who overcome even as He overcame; the throne that Satan coveted, will be freely accessible to those who perfect characters by the grace of God;
29. **Heb 6:19-20 (GC 489)**—In the meantime, just like the Hebrew Christians, believers today are admonished in the book of Hebrews to follow Jesus by faith in His work of High Priestly ministration

. . . **We must by faith enter within the veil**, "whither the forerunner is for us entered." Hebrews 6:20. There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption. The salvation of man is accomplished at an infinite expense to heaven; the sacrifice made is equal to the broadest demands of the broken law of God. Jesus **has opened the way to the Father's throne**, and through His mediation the sincere desire of all who **come to Him in faith** may be presented before God. **GC 489**.

- a. there, we receive the benefits of His work
 - b. there, there is forgiveness and repentance
 - c. a deeper understanding of the plan of redemption may be obtained
30. This we can only do if we understand His work as High Priest and express faith on it. . .