Apostolic Faith Church 66 Muscliffe Road, Winton, Bournemouth, Dorset BH9 1NW



Showers

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Blessing
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<u>Understanding the Mysteries of the Body of Christ:</u> <u>The Lordship of Jesus Christ</u>

Apostle Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, addressed the crowd during the day of Pentecost regarding the Lordship of Jesus Christ according to Acts 2:32-33 and said of how God raised up Jesus of whom the apostles were witnesses, and was exalted and set by the right hand of God having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon the disciples who were now filled with the Holy Spirit as observed by the people who were present during Pentecost.

And in verses 34-35, Apostle Peter said "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool" (ESV).

And Peter went on in verse 36 to boldly declare: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ" (KJV). This declaration encapsulates and affirms His divine authority over all creation, ownership, supreme power and sovereignty, as well as the believer's submission to His rulership as all creation bows at the mention of His name (Philippians 2:9-11).

The Divine Authority and Sovereign Power of the Lord Jesus Over All

1. Jesus as Creator and Sustainer

Colossians 1:16-17 states, "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." This passage of scripture gives emphasis of Christ Jesus' divine work in creation and sustenance of all things and His Lordship over all.

2. Jesus' Sovereign Power and Authority

Matthew 28:18: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." This statement, made after His resurrection, highlights His sovereign power and authority over all.

Philippians 2:9-11: "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Hallelujah!! There is Power in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every believer has an assurance of Victory through the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Jesus the Head of the Church; All Things Under His Feet

Ephesians 1:22-23 declares: "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all."

Apostolic Witnessing and Confession of the Lordship of Jesus Christ

- 1. Peter's sermon at Pentecost (Acts 2:36): "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."
- 2. Paul's testimony (Romans 10:9-10): For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

The apostles consistently preached and witnessed of the Lordship of Jesus spreading the gospel and bringing many to the saving knowledge of Christ. This confession of faith in recognising and accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour was not only a mere proclamation but also a declaration of allegiance, submission and surrender to the Lordship of Christ that shaped the identity and mission of the early church.

The Saving Power of the Lord Jesus

1. The Death and Resurrection of Jesus the Christ

- Romans 5:8 declares, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were
 yet sinners, Christ died for us." Through His death on the cross, Jesus demonstrated His
 authority over sin. By shedding His blood, Jesus made atonement for all humanity's sins.
 Hebrews 9:22: "And all things are by the law purged with blood; and without the shedding
 of blood there is no remission of sins."
- Ephesians 1:7 proclaims, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the
 forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." His blood establishes a new
 covenant, offering eternal salvation to all who believe (Luke 22:20: "Likewise also he took
 the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for
 you.").
- The resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate Victory of sin and death and the affirmation of His Lordship. Romans 6:9 affirms, "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him." His victory over death ensures that He is Lord not only of the living but also over the dead (Revelation 1:18).

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