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# Hemyock *Baptist Church*



The Lord says to my lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." *Psalm 110:1*

As Easter approaches, I always think how blessed we are to have the benefit of hindsight. Jesus' disciples must have been utterly perplexed and terrified following what looked like the utter defeat of their Messiah. But of course, we know what happened next... or do we? Have we really taken to heart what Jesus has done and do we live in the light of his victory? Psalm 110 can help us; it's the one most often quoted by the NT writers, and is relevant to the church today. It tells us what the Father said to Jesus on his return to heaven, and highlights several key truths about our Saviour.

*Jesus is a living Saviour* - His work on earth was finished (*John 19:30*), he is not on the cross, not in the tomb... He lives! This is the transforming truth that the apostles experienced after the horror of Good Friday. Like them, we can live and serve Jesus in the power of his resurrection (*Phil.3:10*) because Christ lives in us by his Spirit. We are empowered by the Spirit to bear witness to Jesus and his gospel. The world may think that Jesus is an ancient teacher who died, but with the Spirit's help God can use us to show that he is alive and at work in the world today. Are we available to him?

*Jesus is an exalted Saviour* - Jesus lived on earth as an obedient, suffering servant; but is now highly exalted (*Phil.2:9*), raised from the dead and seated at the right hand of the Father in the heavenly places, far above all (*Eph.1:20-12*). There has never been, and never will be, a person on earth whose name is higher than that of our Lord in heaven! Everything is 'under His feet' (*v.22*); he is in complete control. Why should we be fearful?

*Jesus is a reigning Saviour* - Jesus doesn't have to return to earth in order to be King, he is King right now! Before commissioning his disciples and ascending to heaven, he told them: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" (*Matt.28:18-20*). It is in that authority, not our own ability, that we step out in faith to witness and extend his kingdom. We can reign in life because he reigns in heaven (*Rom.5:17*); and, what is more, the Father has "raised us up together, and made us to sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (*Eph.2:6*). How much more authority do we need?

*Jesus is a ministering Saviour* - The letter to the Hebrews explains Jesus' present ministry in heaven to enable his church to serve on earth: "We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of Majesty in the heavens" (*Heb.8:1*). The Father and Son work together to grow us and enable us to glorify the Lord. Jesus is the great High Priest who knows our weaknesses and can give us the grace to help us in times of need (*Heb.4:14-16*).

God has put all things under the feet of Jesus so that Jesus can put all our enemies under our feet and give us a life of joyous victory (*Heb.2:5-9, Rom.16:20*). We don't fight *for* victory in our own strength, but *from* victory, the victory Jesus has already won for us (*Eph.1:19-23*).

*Pastor Steve*