

# WHY BELIEVE JESUS IS MORE THAN A MAN?

Psalm 110

**Through King David God revealed Messiah would be a God-Man, a King and a Priest; only one person in human history fulfills this prophecy.**

As Christians, we believe some incredible things. One of the most incredible is that Jesus Christ is God in the flesh. We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man.

We believe a Jewish man born 2000 years ago who probably stood about 5'6" most likely with black hair and a black beard, olive skin, who worked as a carpenter is also God. That he's the one who created the universe and holds the atoms together by the power of his word.

That's a pretty stunning thing to believe about a man.

Islam and Judaism vehemently, violently reject this idea about Jesus. Jehovah Witnesses and Mormons reject this idea about Jesus. In fact, the vast majority of humanity for the passed 2000 years rejects this idea about Jesus.

Are we crazy for believing a man is God?

We would be if there wasn't good evidence for the truth of this claim; there are several lines of evidence that support Jesus' claim to be God.

One of the most powerful, in fact, one which Jesus used with great affect, is Psalm 110.

One thousand years before Jesus, God revealed three specific facts about the coming Messiah.

The only person in all of human history to fulfill this prophecy is Jesus Christ.

In this study I hope to encourage you that our faith in Jesus is based on powerful evidence. I also hope to encourage greater confidence sharing with unbelievers why you are trusting Jesus as your Savior.

Psalm 110 is the Psalm most often quoted in the New Testament. It was written by King David. The Holy Spirit guided David; David predicted things he could not have known nor would have come to his mind.

## PSALM 110 (ESV)

*A PSALM OF DAVID.*

<sup>1</sup> *The LORD says to my Lord:*

*"Sit at my right hand,*

*until I make your enemies your footstool."*

<sup>2</sup> *The LORD sends forth from Zion*

*your mighty scepter.*

*Rule in the midst of your enemies!*

<sup>3</sup> *Your people will offer themselves freely*

*on the day of your power,*

*in holy garments;*

*from the womb of the morning,*

*the dew of your youth will be yours.*

<sup>4</sup> *The LORD has sworn*

*and will not change his mind,*

*"You are a priest forever  
after the order of Melchizedek."*

<sup>5</sup> *The Lord is at your right hand;  
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.*

<sup>6</sup> *He will execute judgment among the nations,  
filling them with corpses;  
he will shatter chiefs  
over the wide earth.*

<sup>7</sup> *He will drink from the brook by the way;  
therefore he will lift up his head.*

Through David, the Holy Spirit revealed that Messiah would be divine; that He would be deity, fully God in addition to being fully man.

### **Jesus is the predicted God-Man (110:1).**

<sup>1</sup> *The LORD says to my Lord:  
"Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your enemies your footstool."*

A thousand years before Jesus, King David was privileged to hear this exchange between Yahweh (LORD) and Messiah (my Lord, *Adoni*). To "sit at the right hand" of a king was to not only sit in the seat of honor, but as in this case to share in the authority and reign of the king as a co-regent. No mortal can sit at Yahweh's right hand and share divine authority unless He Himself is divine.

Some teach that *my Lord* refers to Solomon who, it seems, for a time co-reigned with David (1 Chronicles 29:12). But this cannot be true because Solomon did not and could not fulfill other aspects of this prophecy. At the time of Jesus, Jewish scholars understood *my Lord* to refer to Messiah. It was also clearly understood Messiah would be a descendant of David; David's "son" (Genesis 49:10; 2 Samuel 7:1-17).

The week of the the crucifixion Jesus spent in the Temple under attack from the Jewish authorities. In every case He defeated their attempts to discredit His claims to be Messiah and to be God. Jesus turned the tables on His adversaries asking them a question from Psalm 110:1.

*Matthew 22:41-46 (ESV)*

<sup>41</sup> *Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, <sup>42</sup> saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup> He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,*

<sup>44</sup> *'The Lord said to my Lord,*

*"Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet" '?*

<sup>45</sup> *If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" <sup>46</sup> And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.*

What is the answer to our Lord's question?

The Messiah is David's son because He is David's physical descendant.

The Messiah is David's Lord because He is deity.

Put it all together – what is Jesus claiming about Himself? According to Jesus, what did Psalm 110:1 reveal about Him?

Psalm 110:1 reveals that Messiah is fully human as David's son and fully divine as David's Lord. Jesus fulfills this prophecy. Through miracles and the quality of His life, Jesus proved Himself the Messiah, the

God-Man – fully divine and fully human. This is not a novel idea that crept into Christianity over time. This wasn't a truth Jesus sprung on the Jewish people at His incarnation. 1,000 years before Jesus, the Holy Spirit miraculously, supernaturally made known through King David that the Messiah would be a God-Man. Psalm 110 was a matter of public record for a 1,000 years. The language is clear, understandable. Even Jesus' enemies had no rebuttal for His interpretation.

Why should we believe Jesus is more than a man?

Because Jesus fulfilled a thousand year old prophecy that Messiah would be divine; that He would be the God-Man.

But Psalm 110 reveals more...

### **Jesus is the predicted *King* (110:1-3, 5-7)**

<sup>1</sup> *The LORD says to my Lord:*

*"Sit at my right hand,*

*until I make your enemies your footstool."*

<sup>2</sup> *The LORD sends forth from Zion*

*your mighty scepter.*

*Rule in the midst of your enemies!*

<sup>3</sup> *Your people will offer themselves freely*

*on the day of your power,*

*in holy garments;*

*from the womb of the morning,*

*the dew of your youth will be yours.*

<sup>5</sup> *The Lord is at your right hand;*

*he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.*

<sup>6</sup> *He will execute judgment among the nations,*

*filling them with corpses;*

*he will shatter chiefs*

*over the wide earth.*

<sup>7</sup> *He will drink from the brook by the way;*

*therefore he will lift up his head.*

Messiah will be King. For a time, Messiah-King will sit at Yahweh's right hand. Then Messiah-King will come to earth and with the help of His servants subjugate and rule over His enemies.

Jesus spoke clearly of His coming again to rule on this earth.

**Matthew 24:29–31 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup> *"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>30</sup> Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

**Matthew 25:31–32 (ESV)**

<sup>31</sup> *"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> Before him will be gathered all the nations..."*

Presently, Jesus is sitting at the right hand. The Preacher of Hebrews reveals...

*Hebrews 1:1-4, 13 (ESV)*

*<sup>1</sup> Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.*

*<sup>13</sup> And to which of the angels has he ever said,*

*“Sit at my right hand  
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?*

At the time of the Rapture, Jesus' sitting will end, He will descend from heaven with a shout and gather out His Bride, the Church and bring her to heaven (1 Thess. 4:13-18). He will sit on the seat of judgment to purify and reward the saints (Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; 2 Cor. 5:1-10), clothe us in white linen and be wed to us (Rev. 19:6-8). All this will happen in heaven while on earth the seven year Tribulation. Verses 2-3 and 5-7 of Psalm 110 will be fulfilled when Jesus returns to end the Tribulation and establish His kingdom on earth.

*Revelation 19:11-16 (ESV)*

*<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. <sup>13</sup> He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. <sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.*

John's vision of Jesus' conquest was not a new idea he came up with for the book of Revelations. It is the fulfillment of David's prophecy in Psalm 110. A thousand years before Jesus, God revealed Messiah would be a King exalted at God's right hand until such a time when, accompanied by His servants, He will return to earth to subjugate and reign in the midst of His enemies. Revelation 19 simply reveals *when* Psalm 110 will be fulfilled by Jesus.

Finally, a thousand years before Jesus, God revealed the Messiah will be a priest. The reason for this would not have been readily apparent to David; the Levitical priests were fully functional. Why would the Messiah need to be a priest? This is proof that this prophecy was supernatural and not from the mind of David.

### **Jesus is the predicted Priest (110:4)**

*<sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn*

*and will not change his mind,*

*“You are a priest forever*

*after the order of Melchizedek.”*

I imagine this was baffling to David. Why will Messiah be a priest? Whatever the reason, God was adamant; He has sworn and will not change his mind.

Messiah will not be a Levitical priest; He will be a priest in the order of Melchizedek. What does this mean?

Without going into detail, a key characteristic of Melchizedek's priesthood is that it is perpetual; it never ends.

Priests offer sacrifices to God. Jesus offered His body and His blood as the blood sacrifice that forgives sin.

**Matthew 26:26–29 (ESV)**

<sup>26</sup> Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup> I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The Preacher of Hebrews further explains Jesus' priesthood in the order of Melchizedek ...

**Hebrews 10:11–18 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. <sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

<sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

<sup>16</sup> "This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, declares the Lord:  
I will put my laws on their hearts,  
and write them on their minds,"

<sup>17</sup> then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

<sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Why is Messiah a Priest? So that He might offer Himself the sinless blood sacrifice for sins. His blood has the power to forgive all our sin.

Are we crazy to believe Jesus is more than a man?

We would be if there were no evidence. But a prophecy made a thousand years before Jesus which He fulfills perfectly is powerful proof Jesus is the God-Man, King and Priest.

Because of Who He is, our destiny is in the hands of Jesus.

Are you trusting in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sin? God gave you Jesus as your High Priest to be the once for all blood sacrifice to pay the penalty for all your sin, past, present and future. You cannot be good enough to earn forgiveness; you must accept forgiveness by faith as the gift it is. Jesus earned it; you believe it.

Do you have family or friends who are open and seeking? Share with them Psalm 110 and show them the miraculous, supernatural evidence that Jesus is more than a man. Jesus is the only person in all of human history who fulfills this prophecy of the God-Man, King and Priest!