

## UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but this is my one aim: to forget everything that's behind, and to strain every nerve to go after what lies ahead. I press on toward the finish line, where the prize waiting for me is the upward call of God*

**IN KING JESUS.**

(Philippians 3:13-14)

#14-2013

by – Stuart H. Pouliot

November 1, 2020

### ***Kingdom of Our Lord: The Declaration***

And the seventh angel sounded his trumpet; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ***“The Kingdom of the World has become our Lord’s and his Christ’s [His Anointed Ones] and he shall reign for the ages of the ages.”*** (Revelation 11:15 Diaglott [added])

I have to confess that for many years I looked upon this verse as all future, as if God’s king had not taken His rightful place on His throne. However, the spirit of the Lord, in His mercy, opened my eyes to see that this could not be true. If it were, what has the Lord been doing for the last 2,000 years or so?

I understand why some groups (schools of thought) see this verse as yet future, based on a variety of reasons. Without going into any great depth of these reasons, some see the kingdom being in suspension, based on ancient Israel’s rejection of Messiah Yeshua and their reinstatement at the end of our present age. Of course, to hold this view, one must also hold to the **doctrine of dualism**. If you are unfamiliar with this, here is an article: [Dualism, Reversionism, Graftage](#).

Others make a distinction between King Jesus’ throne and His Father’s throne as two distinct thrones. This is understandable, as Jesus Himself refers to His throne; however, He also says that He has sat down on His Father’s throne (Revelation 3:21). If anything, it is a throne within a throne, but considering that the Father and Son are in perfect union and agreement, there must be only one throne. After all, **the throne of God and of the Lambkin is within New Jerusalem** (Revelation 22:3). There is no division of the throne of God. And yet, others make a distinction over the throne of David, as something Jesus has yet to assume but will do so at His second coming. I’ll leave this for others to debate.

At any rate, these are just a few examples of the various views about our Lord’s kingdom. As for me, it seems clear that the cross and Jesus’ subsequent resurrection, ascension, and glorification truly was and still is a finished work. All that needed to be done to secure His right as king over the entire earth, receiving the nations as His inheritance and the earth as His possession, was done through the cross and the empty tomb. It is finished!

So, what has Jesus been doing since His glorification at the right hand of the throne of glory? Well, it seems rather simple: He is building His ecclesia without spot or wrinkle, and, in so doing, He is immersing a people into the kingdom of God. One of the last things He said to His disciples was: *Given to Me was all authority in heaven and on the earth. Now go...* (Matthew 28:18). How could He have received all authority and not be reigning now? How could this authority, even a fraction of it, have been put on suspension? There is considerable scriptural evidence to prove that He received all authority from His Father and this authority has continued in play throughout the twenty-one centuries since then.

Without doubt, some might question this conclusion with this argument: How can you say this is true when, looking at the history of the world, nothing seems to have changed, as all manner of evil has run rampant down through the years since Calvary? Yes, it would appear that evil has not been vanquished

off this earth, but there are two proofs that things have changed – mind you, not brought to perfection by any stretch but nevertheless changed.

Consider what was going on during the centuries leading up to Jesus' arrival and following His death for a relatively short period of time: every city in the biblical region of the world had their gods and idols placed in the public square for people to turn to in superstitious worship and daily life. What happened when Christianity began to take root and spread across the globe? Wherever it took root, these idols began to disappear. This doesn't mean they entirely went away or that they didn't take on more subtle forms, but, for the most part, they disappeared from the public square. The truth of the good news of Christ Jesus began to grow in the earth and produce fruit for the glory of God.

God had a plan, and it was to disperse His ancient people from their land and send them throughout the earth as the lost tribes of Israel. Down through the centuries, they lost their ancient identity but they replaced it with a far greater identity as believers in the finished work of Christ and His cross. In this way, the good news of God's Son spread from one end of the earth to the other and has continued unhindered through generations of believers from the entire gene pool of humanity. So, to say that Jesus is not seated on His throne is a rejection of the success of the cross, which is the power of God for salvation.

Going along with this is another theme that I have been continually emphasizing for some time now, and that is the truth. The gospel going forth is tantamount to declaring that God's truth is marching on, as the song says. Here's a personal experience about this song: [When the Saints Go Marching In](#).

When Jesus rose from the grave, the Truth rose up, as well. Jesus ascended to His Father and sent forth His promised *spirit of truth* to His people on earth. Essentially, when He poured forth His spirit, He poured forth His love (shed abroad in our hearts) and His truth. Christ in us is manifested as love and truth. These two divine essences have gone forth throughout the earth for nearly 2,000 years and touched every corner of the earth. Everyone begotten of God receives the outpouring of the spirit of love and truth. What is the evidence of this? You, me and all of God's people that confess Jesus is Lord to the glory of God the Father! God and His Son reign! Their throne and kingdom are as secure and untouchable as they are.

And here is some more good news. As His conquerors, we who believe are seated with Him in the heavenlies, that is, on His throne as He has sat down on His Father's throne. Consider Revelation 11:15 more closely. Have you often wondered why the voices declare *His Christ* (or: *Christ's*)? His *Anointed Ones* has been added as a possible explanation. Yes, Jesus is the Anointed One, but could it be that those who are in Christ are also part of His Christ? Paul intimates such a possibility.

For correspondingly as the [human] body is one [body] and continuously has (possesses; holds) many members (body parts), and all the members of the one body – being many – are one body, in this way (thus), also, [is] the Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12 JM-NT)

As the Son is one with the Father, so is the Christ one with His body; thus, His (God's) Christ.

Dear brethren, we have reduced down the glory and victory of our Lord Jesus to something way out in the future when His victory is active in us now. His truth has prevailed for 2,000 years and we are proof of it. It is time for us to join the voices that have resounded down through the centuries and declare with one voice of agreement: ***The kingdom of this world has become our Lord's and His Christ's (His Anointed Ones) and He shall reign for the ages of the ages.***