

Matthew 22:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.

Analysis

Jesus' question 'What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?' tests the Pharisees' messianic understanding. Their answer 'The son of David' (v. 42) was correct but incomplete. Jesus then asks how David could call his descendant 'Lord' (v. 43-44, quoting Psalm 110:1). The dilemma: how can Messiah be both David's son (descendant) and David's Lord (superior)? The answer: Jesus is both human (David's son) and divine (David's Lord)—the God-man.

Historical Context

Psalm 110:1 was recognized as messianic. David, writing by the Spirit, called Messiah 'my Lord—but ancestors don't call descendants 'Lord.' This paradox reveals Messiah's dual nature—fully human (descended from David) and fully God (David's Lord). The Pharisees couldn't answer (v. 46), showing their inadequate christology.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing Jesus as both David's son and Lord shape your worship?
2. Why is Jesus' dual nature (human and divine) essential to salvation?

Interlinear Text

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|----------|----------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| λέγουσιν | τίνος | ὑμῖν | δοκεῖ | περὶ | τοῦ | Χριστοῦ | τίνος | υἱός |
| Saying | What | ye | think | of | G3588 | Christ | What | son |
| G3004 | G5101 | G5213 | G1380 | G4012 | | G5547 | G5101 | G5207 |
| ἐστιν | λέγουσιν | αὐτῷ | Toῦ | | Δαβίδ | | | |
| is he | Saying | unto him | G3588 | The Son of David | | | | |
| G2076 | G3004 | G846 | | G1138 | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 3:11 (References Christ): Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Matthew 1:1 (References Christ): The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Amos 9:11 (References David): In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

Matthew 9:27 (References David): And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.

Matthew 21:9 (References David): And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Matthew 14:33 (Parallel theme): Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

John 20:28 (Parallel theme): And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

John 1:49 (Parallel theme): Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

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