

Theme: Jesus Christ is the risen and exalted Lord over all things, ruling every square inch of the universe for God's glory.

I. Intro – C4 - Complex Topic

- A. C4 series - Christ, Church, Christians, Culture
- B. Very complex topic
- C. Notice not just Christ and culture - too simple
- D. Must account for church, Christians, culture matrix
- E. However, key statement at beginning
- F. Christ is Sovereign over all!!!

II. Every Square Inch - All Authority

- A. The important foundation for Great Commission
 - 1. We often just skip to vv19-20
 - 2. They certainly have much to say about C4
 - 3. Bu the foundation is v18 - all authority
- B. A look at Christ's authority
 - 1. All authority - every last ounce!
 - a. All authority - not most all! (v18)
 - b. John 3:35; 13:3; 1 Pet 3:22; Psa 115:3
 - c. There is NO contest - His will is done
 - 2. Heaven and earth - every square inch
 - a. Not just in heaven - on earth as well

- b. Psa 135:6; Dan 4:35
- c. Psalm 2 authority on earth!
- d. Kuyper quote - every square inch!!

- 3. Has been given - past tense, present reality
 - a. Has been given - already given by Father (v18)
 - b. Heb 1:3; Col 3:1 - seated - work finished

III. Christ's Call to the Church & Christians

- A. We must go to every culture on earth (v19)
 - 1. 'all nations' - people groups, not governments
 - 2. Centrally take Gospel - Luke 24:46-47
 - 3. Abrahamic promise - Gal 3:8
 - 4. Individuals in view - make disciples, baptizing
 - 5. Church must take Gospel to every square inch!
- B. Make disciples - not just converts
 - 1. Make disciples is the command - not go
 - 2. Baptize and teach how disciples made
 - 3. They will then be able to work in their own culture
- C. We must also reach our own people group/culture
 - 1. Going is not an excuse to ignore here
 - 2. Every square inch - includes our own culture

IV. The Challenge and the Promise

- A. This will be a very difficult task!
 - 1. If we don't see this as daunting we're deceived
 - 2. Reach every part of the globe with Gospel
 - 3. Proclaim unchanging Gospel in ever changing cultures
 - 4. Be in cultures but not of them!
- B. The promise - Christ's continual presence
 - 1. He is with us - to the end of the age!
 - 2. He will help us understand how to do this!
 - 3. He will empower us to do this!

V. Applying the Word

- A. Do we really see & believe Christ is Sovereign?
 - 1. Do we see Scripture teaches He rules **everything**?
 - 2. Do we really believe this?
 - 3. He is at work everywhere, in all things!
 - 4. He is Lord of ALL of life - not just church
 - 5. However, we will see He does not rule all things the same way
- B. Do we see Christ's call to take take Gospel to all?
 - 1. Do we see He has given this task to us?
 - 2. Do we see only the Church can do this?

3. It is not the job of govt, business - but the Church!

C. Do we know Christ is with us?

- 1. This task is daunting - but He is with us!
- 2. This gives comfort and encouragement!
- 3. Go with His Presence and Promise - & serve!

Every Square Inch

Matthew 28:18-20

Psalm 93

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Prayer or Concluding Song

Psalm 115:14-15

The Father loves the Son and **has placed everything in his hands**. John 3:35

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; John 13:3

[Jesus] has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--**with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him**. 1 Peter 3:22

Our God is in heaven; **he does whatever pleases him**. Psalm 115:3

The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths. Psalm 135:6

All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. **He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth**. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" Daniel 4:35

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. 3 "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, 6 "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill." 7 I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery." 10 Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. Psalm 2:1-12

"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'" - Abraham Kuyper

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, **he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven**. Hebrews 1:3

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1

He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and **repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:46-47

The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and **announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you."** Galatians 3:8