

## The Kingdom of Christ — Almost 2,000 Years Old {continued}

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by Bill Crews

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This clearly refers to His ascension, not to His second coming.

But here is another convincing argument, less recognized and utilized, that shows that Christ is now and has been sitting and reigning on His throne:

1. Zechariah 6:13, a Messianic prophecy, reads: *“Yes He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”* (That is, between both offices, that of king and that of priest, an unusual combination.) So Christ was to sit on His throne, to rule on His throne, to be a priest on His throne — all in heaven, not on the earth.
2. Hebrews 4:14 reads, *“Having then a great high priest, who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.”* Christ is now our high priest and has been ever since He ascended back to heaven. Hebrews 8:4 reads, *“Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all.”* Everyone will surely agree that Christ is now sitting at the right hand of God in heaven and has been made both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:34-36). He is also our high priest in heaven. Since He was to sit and rule upon His throne and be a priest upon His throne, He is and has been a king on His throne ruling over His spiritual kingdom. If he were on earth, He could not be a priest. There is no future kingdom on this earth in God’s plan. It exists only in the speculations of men. The real kingdom of Christ is now almost 2,000 years old.

## Carrying Your Own Weight?

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by Wayne Goff

***“For every man shall bear his own burden”*** (Galatians 6:5 KJV).

In the church, as in many other relationships, there are the **workers** and the **shirkers**! There are the **givers** and the **takers**! The goal in life for every human being should be to **give more** than you **take**! So why are the faithful Christians always referred to as *“the faithful few”*?

Yes, we are to *“bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ”* (Gal. 6:2). Those who are absolutely unable to care for themselves, or those who need help temporarily, or the discouraged and downtrodden, are to be cared for by those who are strong. But beware lest the able-bodied begin to depend too much on others! If the “needy”(?) begin to outnumber the “strong,” then what?

It is an interesting thing to go through the entire Bible and look at what it says about helping others and standing on your own two feet. There is a great contrast between the two, as you can see. On the one hand, Christ died for all mankind because we were *spiritually* helpless and destitute (Isaiah 53:5). Because of this, we are to reach out to help those who are in need: *“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’”* (Acts 20:35).

And again: *“Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world”* (James 1:27). You see the two great laws of religion in this one verse: (1) Love God with all your heart by practicing moral purity; and (2) Love your neighbor as yourself by caring for widows and orphans in their distress.

Let everyone consider himself to be “strong” and reach out to help those who are “weak.” 320703