

"CHRIST COMING WITH CLOUDS"

Introduction

1. Christ is here on trial before the Sanhedrin.
2. He is obliged to speak by the oath here.
3. Christ gives a two-fold sign to them
DOCTRINE: All Christ's enemies will see him at last in his glory

1. THE TWOFOLD HONOUR WHICH CHRIST HAS

- 1) To be
 - (i) seated at the right hand of God
 - (ii) coming again at the end of the world on the clouds
- 2) The Question put to him (v.63) is the most important in the world:
 - (i) the Jewish people should not have needed to ask it (O.T. / teachings / miracles...)
APPLICATION: Sin + prejudice blind men
 - (ii) they have a clear answer (an Indirect Affirmative – see v.25).
But they did not want it as they were determined to kill him.
(See 26:4; 27:1).
- 3) **Q.** How did so religious a people commit so wicked a crime?
A. They were religious but not regenerate (**ILLUSTRATION:** Crusades / Inquisition).
APPLICATION: Are you clear about who Jesus Christ is?

2. HOW WOULD THESE UNBELIEVERS SEE CHRIST IN THE WAYS WHICH HE HERE SPEAKS OF?

- 1) Our Lord says they would see him:
 - (i) at the right hand of power
 - (ii) coming in the clouds
Note carefully these were signs of his Divinity:
 - See Psalm 2:6; Psalm 110:1; Daniel 7:9-10
 - Daniel 7:13-14**OBSERVE:** So our Lord was claiming to fulfil these very

scriptures in time to come.

APPLICATION: It is not enough to speak respectfully of "Jesus" as if he were just a good man.

- 2) The first sign was the "right hand" + it would be seen:
 - (i) after the resurrection + ascension;
 - (ii) when Pentecost occurred (Acts 2:32, 33, 36)
 - (iii) the opening of the door of grace to Gentiles
 - (iv) the universal spread of the "catholic church".
 - (v) and in the day of judgement (Rev. 6:16)
APPLICATION: Every unbeliever will see Christ at last, just as every believer will. O the difference!
- 3) The second sign is the "coming in the clouds": a clear reference to his Second Coming:
 - (i) called the "PAROUSIA": "grand arrival"
 - (ii) and "APOCALYPSE": "unveiling", now veiled
 - (iii) also "APPEARING": because now concealed
 - (iv) and "EPIPHANY": glorious manifestation
APPLICATION: No one can in the end, when this occurs, say he had no warning.. It is all here!

3. PRACTICAL LESSONS

- 1) Pity, and never envy, the world – this Day will find them unprepared.
- 2) Make sure you are safely resting under the blood:
ILLUSTRATION: Jewish child at Passover
- 3) Study to be at peace with one another + to love one another sincerely.

CONCLUSION

Time hurries on. When this Saviour's words come true, will you be ready?

PSALM

50: 1 – 5

110: 1 – 5

96: 10 -13