

Preacher's Pen points

If You Could See Him Now!



What picture comes to mind when you think of Jesus now? For most of us the image might be the one that we commonly associate with His earthly life, the humble servant who partook of our humanity. Yet is this the picture that should come to mind when we think of Jesus now?

The Exalted Christ

Paul reminds us what happened to Jesus in the aftermath of His crucifixion: *Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name... (Philippians 2:9)* God *“seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.” (Eph. 1:20-22).*

Radiant in Glory

As the exalted Christ, Jesus now radiates a glory that shines forth from His divine nature. Three of the disciples were given a preview of this glory at the transfiguration. Matthew gives this description of Him: *“His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.” (Mt. 17:2)* This vision was to foreshadow the unveiled glory of Jesus as the resurrected Lord. Years later the apostle John was given another vision of Him. The picture he draws is awesome indeed: He was *“clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire; and His feet were like bur-*

nished bronze, when it has been caused to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. And in His right hand He held seven stars; and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.” (Rev. 1:13-16).

Worshipped by the Hosts of Heaven

Later John saw the whole creation bowing and giving their praise to the Lord: *“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.” (Rev. 1:12).* On earth He was the thorn-crowned man, but now He is the golden-crowned King of Kings. On earth He was the suffering servant, but now He is the sovereign ruler of all. On earth His name was blasphemed, but now He has a name that is above every name. On earth He looked like any other man, but now He radiates the glory of His divine nature. Awesome!

What Jesus' Exaltation Should Mean To Us!

If we could see Him now, we would join the heavenly hosts in bowing before Him and giving Him unceasing praise. If we could see Him now, we would honor Him as the king of kings, ruler of the nations. If we could see Him now, we would render to him complete obedience as the Lord of all. If we could see Him now, our hearts would leap with the anticipation of seeing Him in heaven. If we could see Him now, we would be thrilled at the prospect of what we will become.

The truth is, that with the eye of faith we can see Him now! Let us see His glory and worship and serve Him as the exalted Lord that He is!

—Johnny