

**LET
GOD
ARISE!**

*The Battle Belongs to the Lord
Prayer Guide #10
Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis*



Jesus' Exaltation
Colossians 1.13-18

Crown Him With Many Crowns
Matthew Bridges

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King for all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save;
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives, that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of peace, Whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole that wars may cease and all be prayer and praise;
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,
Those wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

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The One who was humbled has now become Lord of all.

Phil. 2.5-11 - Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, [8] he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

In Jesus Christ, the fullness of God dwells.

Matt. 11.25-27 - At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; [26] yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. [27] All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Luke 10.21 - In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will."

John 1.16 - And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

John 3.34 - For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.

Eph. 1.3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.



Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV)

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Eph. 1.23 - which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Eph. 4.10 - He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.

Col. 2.3 - in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Col. 2.9 - For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.

Col. 3.11 - Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Through his redemption, Jesus has been given preeminence over all things.

Ps. 45.2-5 - You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever. [3] Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty! [4] In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds! [5] Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you.

Ps. 89.27 - And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

Song of Sol. 5.10 - My beloved is radiant and ruddy, distinguished among ten thousand.

Col. 1.15-19 - He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. [16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. [17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. [18] And he is the head



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of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. [19] For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Isa. 52.13 - Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

Matt. 23.8 - But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers.

Matt. 28.18 - And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

John 1.16 - And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

John 1.27 - Even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.

John 3.29-31 - The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. [30] He must increase, but I must decrease. [31] He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all.

John 3.34-35 - For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. [35] The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand.

Rom. 8.29 - For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.



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1 Cor. 15.25 - For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

Heb. 1.5-6 - For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? [6] And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

Rev. 5.9-13 - And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, [10] and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." [11] Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, [12] saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" [13] And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Rev. 11.15 - Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

Rev. 21.23-24 - And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. [24] By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

Jesus is the firstborn of creation, and firstborn from the dead.

Prov. 8.29-31 - when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of



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the earth, [30] then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, [31] rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.

Col. 1.16-17 - For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. [17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Mic. 5.2 - But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

John 1.1-3 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 8.58 - Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”

John 17.5 - And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

1 Cor. 8.6 - yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Col. 1.15 - He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Heb. 13.8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.



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Rev. 2.8 - And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: “The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.”

Rev. 3.14 - And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: “The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation.”

John 11.25-26 - Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Acts 26.23 - that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.

1 Cor. 15.20-23 - But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. [21] For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. [22] For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. [23] But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

Rev. 1.5 - and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.

Rev. 1.18 - and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

As Christus Victor, Jesus has been made Head over all things to the Church.

1 Cor. 11.3 - But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.

Eph. 1.10 - as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.



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Eph. 1.22-23 - And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Eph. 4.15-16 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, [16] from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Eph. 5.23 - For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

Col. 1.24 - Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church.

Col. 2.10-14 - and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. [11] In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, [12] having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. [13] And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, [14] by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Jesus is the very image of God.

John 1.18 - No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.



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John 14.9 - Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 15.24 - If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father.

2 Cor. 4.4 - In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Cor. 4.6 - For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Phil. 2.5-11 - Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, [8] he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Heb. 1.3 - He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Since Christ is exalted, we can trust him to deliver us.

Isa. 49.24-25 - Can the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued? [25] For thus says the Lord: "Even the captives of the



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mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued, for I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children.”

Isa. 53.12 - Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Matt. 12.29-30 - Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. [30] Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

Acts 26.18 - to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

Heb. 2.14 - Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.

1 Cor. 15.25-28 - For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. [26] The last enemy to be destroyed is death. [27] For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. [28] When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Let us wait with patience the time of his final coronation.

Ps. 2.6-10 - “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.” [7] I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have



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begotten you. [8] Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. [9] You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." [10] Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Ps. 45.3-6 - Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty! [4] In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds! [5] Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you. [6] Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness.

Ps. 110.1 - The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

Acts 2.34-36 - For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, [35] until I make your enemies your footstool.' [36] Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Heb. 10.12-13 - But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, [13] waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ■

OUR THEME for this year is *The Battle is the Lord's*, a part of a speech little boy David made to Goliath as the armies of God and the Philistines met each other on the day of battle (cf. 1 Sam. 17.45-47). Little David, one who is neither trained by the military or even invited to the fight, winds up the champion of Israel! On a simple errand to find out how his brothers were doing in the fight, David is catapulted to the very pinnacle of war—the



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representative champion of the armies of God. Truly, this story has been a wonderful and insightful backdrop to our themes, observances, and foci this year, not only in our *Let God Arise!* Series, but our ongoing community life as well.

In a real sense, our Lord Jesus is prefigured in the lowly shepherd boy who becomes the Warrior-Poet-King of Israel. From his birth in Bethlehem, his shepherding, his kingship, to God's covenant of faithfulness to him, David is a type of our Lord Jesus, the true Son of David, who alone inherits the throne promised to David (2 Samuel 7). While being of the lineage of David, our Lord Jesus is so much more, for he is the exalted Son of God, the Son of Man who is destined to reign forever as King and Lord of all.

As we worship and pray during the Season after Pentecost, we recognize and affirm both the headship and lordship of Jesus Christ. According to the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, God the Father has displayed his immeasurable power to the world in raising his Son Jesus Christ from the dead. The same Jesus who was humiliated and abused in a sham Roman trial and Jewish Sanhedrin council proceeding has now been vindicated. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus the Nazarene has proven himself to be the one, true Son of God, the Christ and Lord of all.

Now, because of his obedience and sacrifice, God has highly magnified him and through his ascension has seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavenly places. This exalted status is unique and singular; he has been raised "far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come" (Eph. 1.21, ESV). In honor of his work as God's servant, the Father has put all things under his feet, and given Jesus Christ to be head over all things to his body, the Church, which is called "the fullness of him who fills all in all" (Eph. 1.23). The exaltation of Jesus Christ is appropriate and right; his is the



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only name under heaven given to humankind whereby they can be reconciled to God and forgiven of their sins (Acts 4.12).

Yes, Jesus is the exalted Head of the Church, the Firstborn from the dead, the King who will reign forever. Especially, then, during this season, we wait for the full unveiling of his reign, that time when the kingdom of this world will become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. During this season we reflect, we wait, and anticipate his coming. We are aware that although the Kingdom has come in Christ, it is not yet consummated. There is work to do, a harvest to gather, a world to win. Having been given all authority in heaven and on earth, Jesus has commissioned us to go and make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28.18-19). This is possible, for all authority has been given to him, the Gospel we preach is the very power of God. In Christ, we can do anything he commands for he is Lord.

Let us then both watch and wait, work and praise, as we seek to make him known to the world, especially to the millions languishing in the unreached cities around the globe. We can be confident, for his Word is true and cannot be broken. We can be bold, for he alone has been given a name above every name, the same name that all tongues one day will confess and all knees one day will be made to bow to. We can be encouraged, for the One we serve, truly, is Lord to the glory of God, the Father (Phil. 2.9-11).

Jesus Christ must reign until God has put all of his enemies under his feet (cf. 15.25). As he whom God has exalted, Christ ever lives now to make intercession for his own (Heb. 7.25). As he whom God has honored, he alone is the head over all things to his people, leading and directing them as the Shepherd of their souls (1 Pet. 2.25). As he whom God has granted authority over all things, Jesus alone can provide for us the grace and strength to endure all that this world and its prince may do to thwart God's will (1 John 4.4).



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Because Christ is Lord, let us remind ourselves that things are not as they appear. On every hand God seems to be ignorant of the chaos around us, or worse, impotent to change the affairs in a world that seems to daily spin more and more out of control. Evil taunts righteousness in numerous societies that flail and wobble towards corruption, coasting without bearing or compass. In the face of such tragedies, let us worship the Christ of God, and affirm without shame during this Season after Pentecost and every season that he is alive, exalted at the Father's right hand, and has been given a name above all names. He is the head of his people, directing his Church's affairs as we both show and tell the lost of the Good News of the Kingdom, and soon will consummate his Kingdom.

I can still remember the chorus we sang in our urban AME church in inner city Wichita of a small group of African American families struggling for dignity in a racially charged neighborhood. Those humble poor folk sang with joy and confidence the ol' Southern tune, "God is still on the throne." In the midst of despair and difficulty, they never abandoned the hope that, in spite of it all, God in Christ Jesus still commanded the universe, and in the corridors of history, Christ alone would have the final say. In the spirit of that little church, that true spark of the blazing flame that is the Church, I confess still that God is still on the throne. This is the key to ministry, and this is the key to life.

Pray this month in the name of the risen Christ, the One whose work can save and whose name still heals. He is our Lord, the Prince of Life. Let us go forth in his name, proclaiming and demonstrating his kingdom reign.

And—he will be with us till the very end of the age. ■



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The Season after Pentecost: Jesus' Exaltation

Ps. 2:6-10 - "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." [7] I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. [8] Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. [9] You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." [10] Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Biblical Principle of the Month

During this Season after Pentecost, let us recognize, affirm, and celebrate the exaltation of the risen Lord Jesus to the right hand of God. As Head of the Church and Lord of all, he must reign until all his enemies have been placed under his feet. In obedience to his Great Commission, let us proclaim Christ risen to the nations, and demonstrate in love and justice the reign of God where we live and work.

Soon Christ will return in glory to establish the reign of God in the earth and destroy the enemies of God. As the sun sets on this age of grace, let us pray fervently for more laborers for the urban harvest, and a new move of the Spirit in the cities of the world. Let us go in the authority and name of the risen Christ, for he is Lord of all.

Phil. 2:5-11 - Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, [8] he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



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