

INTRODUCTION

1. Accepting your family identity - 1Pt 1:17-19. Lk 6:35. *Sons of Most High*
2. Review: Elohim [Creator;] El Shaddai [God Almighty] & El Elyon [God Most High] = God of Ab; Yahweh = God of Israel. Jesus is Lord.
3. Preview; Sons of Most High = position of authority in Jesus' kingdom, exercised in an "inverted" way - depicted in Lk 6:20-35.

1st: We are Sons of the Most High in Union with THE Son of the Most High

1. Jesus is THE Son of the Most High - Lk 1:31-33 *The Son of the Most High* concerns rule, authority, enthronement - fulfilling God's promises to David.
2. v35 - Holy Spirit is *the power of the Most High*. Father is "Most High". An aside: *for that reason the Child shall be called holy - the Son of God!* The Son of God incarnate as Jesus who is Son of Most High endowed w/ authority to rule over God's eternal kingdom.
3. Lk 8:28 Demoniac overcome by *the Son of Most High*
4. Jn 10:30-39 Issue: Jesus' identity - v24-25. Citation of Ps 82:6 in v34-36 Jesus' citation of Ps 82:6 - use of *gods* [elohim] re: men. If men entrusted w/ Word of God who did the works of God in OCov were called *gods*, how much more *Son of God whom Father sanctified & sent into world?*

2nd: Sons of the Most High in Psalm 82

1. Asaph: Levitical priest/prophet. To whom is God speaking? Those *to whom the Word of God came* [Jn 10:35].
2. Challenge translation of "elohim" - v1; v6; v8.
3. Where is God? v1 *in His own congregation* [national OCov Israel]; *He judges in midst of rulers* [elohim]. Addresses rulers [v2-4] re: their rule
4. Ruling [*judging*] is concern of Ps 82. Inclusio: v1 & v8 - God judges. Asaph is concerned about how God's rule is exercised by judges/rulers.
5. What's the problem? v2-4 rulers are judging unjustly
6. What is result? v5 - moral chaos & lawlessness. *The ftns of the earth are shaken*: the "very good" world shakes under the weight of sin & injustice. "Shaking of earth's ftns" = language of Final Judgment [Hb 12:26-27].
7. v6 *I said* - Asaph's prophetic denunciation of *the rulers*.
 - i. *you are elohim - gods*: cited by Jesus in Jn 10:34.
 - ii. *all of you are Sons of the Most High* - what Jesus calls us in Lk 6:35.
8. v7 - judges come under judgment of death along w/ *men & princes* - others in OCov Theocracy - the people & royal rulers.
9. v8 - Asaph yearns for God to come & judge & rectify the wrong
10. The phrase *Son of Most High* = position of rule in God's gov't: judges who are to administer Word of God righteously to effect the rescue of the weak & needy; to instruct those who walk in darkness.

3rd: What is Jesus Saying to the Jews [Pharisees] in John 10:34-36?

1. Speaking to men who hold positions of rule - human elohim.
2. *Has it not been written in your Law?* Those entrusted w/ Word of God [*who were entrusted w/ the oracles of God* - Rm 3:2].
3. Jesus indicts Phars for not recognizing Him as Son of God; irresponsible w/ Word of God & exercise of God's authority among men: blind & deaf. Jesus leaves & goes to Aenon & *many believed in Him there* [v40-42].

4th: What is Jesus Saying to Us in Lk 6:35?

1. Would we be *sons of the Most High*? For what are we responsible?
 - i. 6:27-38a 1] love enemies; 2] do good; 3] bless; 4] pray; 5] give; 6] be merciful; 7] withhold condemnation & extend pardon.
 - ii. We are authorized to administer the rule of King Jesus: worship, witness - declare forgiveness of sins in His name & admission into His eternal kingdom. No one else on earth is so authorized.
2. May the privilege & purpose of being *sons of God Most High* grip us as we commence our study of Revelation in PM series. *You are gods & all of you are sons of the Most High.*
 - i. Do you know someone who is walking in darkness?
 - ii. Do you know someone who is unjustly abused by a derelict authority?
 - iii. Do you know someone whose conscience condemns them?
3. What a wonderful privilege; noble task; what a glorious prospect: you will have great reward when Jesus returns to be glorified in you [2Th 1:10].