## The 1689 Confession; Chapter 8, Paragraph's 8 & 10 – "Of Christ the Mediator", Message # 27 – "Christ Binding the Evil One", Presented in the Adult Sunday School Class, by Pastor Paul Rendall on July 5th, 2020.

**Paragraph 10** – This number and order of offices is necessary; for in respect of our ignorance, we stand in need of his prophetical office; and in respect of our alienation from God, and imperfection of the best of our services, we need his priestly office to reconcile us and present us acceptable unto God; and in respect to our averseness and utter inability to return to God, and for our rescue and security from our spiritual adversaries, we need his kingly office to convince, subdue, draw, uphold, deliver, and preserve us to his heavenly kingdom.

Today we are beginning to take a look at the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Christ's Mediatorial office; that of His being our King. We have studied that He is a Prophet to His people. We have spent many Sundays looking at how He is the High Priest of His Spiritual Israel. And now today we will be looking at His Kingly office. We will look at His Kingly office in respect to the victory of His Church over all of her spiritual adversaries. This study has gown out of the many studies that I have given to you about Christ being our High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. That phrase, which is used over and over again in the New Testament is originally found in Psalm 110, verse 4. In that Psalm Christ is spoken of as both a King and a Priest. It starts out by saying – "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool." "The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion." "Rule in the midst of Your enemies."

Notice that Christ as our great King is presently ruling among the nations of the world, and ruling even in the midst of His enemies. But we need to understand this important point which should affect our expectation of what is coming as this Church age progresses. It is, that although Christ is reigning, that His Church is not presently reigning upon the earth yet, because of Satan's deceptive activity. We need to see that in terms of Christ's Second Coming, that He will sit there at the Father right hand until the Father makes all of His enemies His footstool. But this does not mean that He is spiritually inactive as a King in relation to the progress of His Church in preaching the gospel. His intercession for her is so that she will spiritually be able to successfully preach the gospel to every creature in every nation of the earth. His intercession is so that the Church will make progress to complete victory, and ultimately have complete success in fulfilling the Great Commission. The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 26 says – "Christ executes the office of a King, in subduing us to Himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all His enemies, and ours."

We looked in past sessions at the book of Zechariah chapters 3 and 6 at Christ's High Priestly ministry. We saw Him portrayed for us as an Advocate with the Father, interceding on our behalf when we fall into any sin. He cleanses us and clothes us with clean garments so that we through the process of sanctification might be holy and make progress in holiness. We looked at Him as the servant the Branch who is building the temple of the Lord, composed of both Old Testament and New Testament saints. He will bear the glory and sit and rule on His throne, and so He is a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace exists between the two offices of Priest and King. He is also pictured in Zechariah chapter 3 as a Stone on which are 7 eyes, which shows that in His intercession He is able to see all that we individually need in terms of grace being given to us so that we will fulfill our personal ministry according to the gift that He has given to us. Our individual ministry will only be successful because of Christ's intercession. And so, I said to you last time and I will repeat it today –

1. Christ is the Stone with 7 eyes who sees clearly how He should intercede and intervene in the History of the Church for the spiritual progress of His people individually, and also for His Church collectively in all generations to the end of the world.

**Zechariah 4: 6-10** – "So he answered and said to me: This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit', says the Lord of hosts." "Who are you, O great mountain?" "Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain!" "And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of

'Grace, grace to it!" "Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying: The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it." "Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you." "For who has despised the day of small things?" "For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel." "They are the eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth."

We see here that there would be sure and certain success in the building of the 2<sup>nd</sup> temple. God had appointed Zerubbabel to be the governor in that day; the man who would promote the building of the 2<sup>nd</sup> temple, when the people returned from the 70 years captivity. There is a double reference here just as much as in chapter 3 when we have looked at the ministry of Joshua the high priest being typical of Christ our High Priest. Now we see Zerubbabel being typical of Christ's righteous ministry as their King; the governor or ruler of the people. His hands laid the foundation of it, and His hands would finish it. He represents Christ typically in that Christ hands, having laid the foundation of the Church at the cross and by His resurrection, His hands shall also finish it in the application of salvation in the building of the Church. This means in individual members added, in terms of those whom the Father has given to Him, and it means the calling of the nations who will be added in the time of the Millennium. Zerubbabel was the governor in those same days when Joshua was high priest. Together they would be the leaders to accomplish the rebuilding of the temple in those Old Testament times. Christ is the Antitype of both together in His One Blessed Person; having the Offices of Priest and King in Himself, and peace between these Offices.

## 2. He will guard His Church and He will bind the evil one as a part of His Intercession as our Priestly-King so that the Church and Christ's kingdom will eventually come to spiritually reign upon the earth.

**Isaiah 27: 1-6** – "In that day the LORD with His severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; And He will slay the reptile that is in the sea." "In that day sing to her, 'A vineyard of red wine!" "I, the LORD, keep it, I water it every moment; lest any hurt it, I keep it night and day." "Fury is not in Me." "Who would set briers and thorns Against Me in battle?" "I would go through them, I would burn them together." "Or let him take hold of My strength, that he may make peace with Me; and he shall make peace with Me." "Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit."

Revelation 20: 1-6 – "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand." "He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished." "But after these things he must be released for a little while." "And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them." "Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands." "And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years." "But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished." "This is the first resurrection." "Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

Satan's binding is called here in Isaiah 27: 1 – punishing the fleeing serpent. Christ is the One who is punishing Him here. Leviathan that twisted serpent is the reptile that is in the sea; that is, the sea represents the nations, and he is in the midst of this sea of the nations, deceiving them. Neither these verses in Isaiah, nor the verses in Revelation 20 are talking about an individual believer's victory, but it is the Church's victory in connection with the preaching the gospel. Because of Christ's intercession and the Father's intervention on behalf of Christ's Church that Satan is bound so that he can no longer deceive the nations with his great systematic deceptions of false doctrine such as Mohammedanism, Roman Catholicism, false Judaism, and Paganism, world-wide. Christ will slay the reptile that is in the

sea. This reptile is Satan, the one who is called by all all of his names in Revelation 20, verse 2. His binding is not for the whole Church age, but for a thousand years, a definite period of years within this Church, and not at the beginning of it, or in the middle of it, but in the latter part of this Church age.

As Christ binds Satan, He will through the preaching of His word by His Church, accompanied by the power of His Spirit, challenge all organized opposition to the gospel to cease their opposition to His gospel and His cause and kingdom. The Lord will call and restore the Jews to Himself, and then He will keep His Church, it says here in verses 2, 3, and 4, as a vineyard of red wine. He will keep it and water it every moment lest any hurt it. He will keep it day and night. Fury is not in Me, He says. This is His intercession for many among the nations to be freed from Satan's hold of deception over them in his great deceptions of false religion around the world. If you want to fight against Him with organized opposition, He will go through it. Or they can take hold of His strength and make peace with Him and be saved. This is mentioned twice so as to prove His good intentions to save anyone who will come to Him for the forgiveness of sins. The Jews will be the first to take Him up on this in that day. And they, becoming an integral part of the New Testament Church, a part of the Spiritual Israel which the Church is, will become great witnesses for the truth. They shall blossom and bud and fill the face of the world with fruit it says here. All these things will take place because Christ will intercede for His Church.