Is Jesus the Messiah? CR14-739

Acts 2:32 - "This Jesus God resurrected, about which we keep on being firsthand witnesses." (EXT)

Acts 2:33 - "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. (NASB)

- 1. This is a summary verse. The building up of data from the Old Testament and attaching them to the Messiah is the impact provided by the *lógos* mode of the Argument.
- 2. Notice the verse begins with the session of Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father, an even having occurred ten days ago.
- 3. On the tenth day following the session of Christ, believers in the upper room "received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit."
- 4. That promise was kept in the streets of Jerusalem when evangelists, through the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit, communicated the gospel to visitors from 15 different countries in town to celebrate Pentecost.
- 5. Among Jews and others who observed these things, some started the rumor that the strange-sounding voices of the evangelists were because they were drunk on sweet wine. An Israeli Mateus Rosé.
- 6. Peter was first inspired to make his speech because of this in:
 - Acts 2:15 "These men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning."
- 7. Acts 2:33 is actually a quick summary of everything he has said since Acts 2:15 and continuing through verse 32.
- 8. Verse 33 begins with the aorist passive participle of ὑψόω (hupsóō): used for the "exaltation" of Jesus at the right hand of the Father, also referred to as His "session."
- 9. The passive voice indicates this event had already occurred actually taking place ten days before.

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10. Having been seated next to the Father means at that moment our Lord was considered glorified. His mission in Operation Reconciliation was now complete as He was welcomed by the Father Who bestowed the highest honor of having Christ be seated at His right hand.

- 11. His session set the stage for the dispensation of the Church. Its "signal event" was the dual imputation of the indwelling and filling ministries of the Holy Spirit.
- 12. "Signal event" is a precise way to describe these divinely supplied attributes to those who place their personal faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
 - A sign or event which has been agreed upon as the occasion of concerted action. That which incites to action. Distinguished from what is ordinary.¹
- 13. This signal event was prophesied on several occasions. To His apostles on the night before He was betrayed, the Lord told them this:
 - John 14:16 -"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;
 - v. 17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you."
 - John 14:26 -But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.
 - John 16:7 -"I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.
- 14. Just before the Lord ascended, He once again reminded them of the promise of the Holy Spirit:
 - "John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

¹ Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. (1953) s.v. "signal."

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15. Acts 1:9 documents the ascension of Christ from our solar system into the third heaven in resurrection body. Once before the heavenly throne, the Father commemorates the Lord's successful completion of Operation Reconciliation.

- 16. Reconciliation is the principle that allows God to remove the barrier between Himself and the human race through the salvation work of Jesus Christ on the cross.
- 17. The formula that allows reconciliation to occur is first of all the salvific work of Christ on the cross which includes redemption followed by propitiation of the Father.
- 18. Propitiation is the divine approval and acceptance of Jesus' work on the cross so that the barrier could then be removed.
- 19. Removal of the barrier results in Reconciliation which removes the status of divine hostility toward sinful mankind and replaces it with restored peace with the Father.
- 20. When the Bible speaks of peace in theological terms it is referring to the relationship the believer has with God. In those contexts, "peace," has nothing whatsoever to do with the conspiracies that occur in the devil's world among individuals, groups of individuals, or national entities in conflict.
- 21. The act of reconciliation is defined in:
 - 2 Corinthians 5:18 All things [divine revelation] are from God, who has reconciled [καταλλάσσω (katallássō): the act of God that establishes peace with those who believe in Christ] us to Himself through Christ, and has given to each one of us the ministry of reconciliation [the gospel which, if believed, results in reconciliation],
- 22. A witness's post-salvation responsibility includes the duty of being a personal representative of Jesus Christ in relaying the gospel to unbelievers.

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1 Corinthians 5:19 - namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and having deposited in each one of us the doctrine of reconciliation.

- v. 20 Therefore, we keep on being <u>ambassadors</u> for <u>Christ</u> [this is not self-assumed, it is an appointment from God], as though God were entreating us; we request you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
- 23. An ambassador does not support himself. God provides our logistical grace support through the grace pipeline. These provisions are designed to support our efforts as witnesses for the Prosecution in Lucifer's appeal proceeding before the Supreme Court of Heaven.
- 24. In addition, witnessing to those living in the Dark Side will bring pressure on the witness. Therefore we have been given techniques that put challenges and tests in God's hands.
- 25. Utilization of the problem-solving devices is imperative in order to remain copacetic and poised under fire from the Lucifer's deceitful workers and reversionistic believers.
 - **v. 21** For God made Jesus who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- 26. Therefore, the session of Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father followed by the imputation of the indwelling and filling ministries of the Holy Spirit constitute the inauguration of the Church Age.
- 27. Inauguration is defined as follows by *The Oxford English Dictionary*:

To begin a course of action, period of time, especially of an important character with some formal ceremony or notable act; to commence, commemorate, enter upon, to introduce, usher in or initiate. ¶ The formal or definite commencement or introduction of a course of action, an important era, or period of time.²

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² The Oxford English Dictionary, s.vv. "inaugurate," "inauguration."