Sermon Outline

BAPTIZED NATION

ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH:
THE BAPTIZED WORLDVIEW
(MATTHEW 28:18)

I.   God for Us

II.   What is a "worldview"?
   A.   A worldview is one's *system of beliefs.*
   —A worldview is that set of beliefs and commitments that influences how one understands the world, interprets its facts, and acts upon them.
   B.   In baptism, we receive a new worldview.
   C.   What is the baptized worldview? It is one where Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

III.   Now that Jesus Has Died for our Sins…
   A.   As the true King of Israel, Jesus dies for the sins of his people in accordance to prophecy (Isa 53:4-6).
   B.   As a reward for his perfect obedience, God the Father raises Jesus from the grave.
   C.   The resurrection of Jesus is the first step of his return to glory.

IV.   All Authority Has Been Given to Jesus Christ
   A.   Jesus has been given "authority" (*exousia*), the right to rule and to be obeyed.
   B.   But Jesus has been given "*all* authority," which means that he has the right to rule comprehensively and to be obeyed without reservation!

V.   Jesus Has Been Given All Authority by God
   A.   God the Father was the One who gave Jesus all authority.
   B.   Daniel 7 is the theological background for Jesus' statement.
   C.   Jesus knows that he is the Son of Man in Daniel 7 (Mt 25:31-32; 26:64).

VI.   Jesus Has Been Given All Authority in Heaven
   A.   Heaven is the realm of God and his celestial servants.

   B.   The throne of God is the Center from which God governs.

   C.   But heaven is also filled with other beings. We call them angels.

   D.   But there is diversity amongst angels too. They include:
      1.   The Messenger-Warriors of YHWH
         a.   Angels as messengers (Gen 16:7-11; 22:15; 24:40; Num 22:24; Jdg 2:1; 1 Chron 21:30; 2 Chron 32:21, etc).
         b.   Angels as warriors (1 Chron 21:30; Ps 35:5; Isa 37:36; Zech 12:8)
      2.   The heavenly Council (Ps 89:6-7)
      3.   The Chief Princes/Archangels (Dan 10:13; Jude 1:9)

4. The Seraphim, "Burning Ones" (Is 6:2)
5. The Cherubim (Gen 3:24; Ex 25:18-22; 1 Kgs 6:27; Ps 80:1)

E. Why consider the heavenly host?
1. They highlight God's majesty and infinite worth.
2. They highlight the greatness of Jesus' authority!

F. *Jesus Christ is Lord of all the powers of heaven!*

V. Jesus Has Been Given All Authority on Earth
A. "And on earth" is the most overlooked phrase of this verse.

B. It corrects a misunderstanding of John 18:36.
1. John 18:36 is about the *origin* of Jesus' kingdom, not its *scope.*
2. Jesus' kingdom does not originate from earth.
3. But Jesus' God-given rule does cover the earth.

C. Jesus has authority over all the God-created spheres of authority in the world.
1. These spheres are not spelled out as such by God's word.
2. But they naturally occur in all human societies.
3. They reflect God's wise governance in human affairs.

D. All those spheres are required to serve Jesus in what they do.
1. *Families* must nurture disciples of Christ.
2. *Churches* must teach God's word and offer communal worship to God.
3. *Schools* must equip people for thinking and service to God.
4. *Businesses* must create wealth for the advancement of God's work.
5. *The arts* must generate beauty to show God's glory.
6. *Healthcare providers* must strengthen and heal life made in God's Image.
7. *The state* must administer justice to preserve God's Image on earth.

F. *Jesus Christ is Lord of all the realms of earth!*

VI. Jesus Is Lord of All!
Now that our Lord Jesus has been granted all authority in heaven and on earth, everything we do must begin with this fact. We must now think and live with a fundamental commitment to the Lord Jesus. In all areas of life to which he has called us, Christ requires us to serve him. The end result will always be life for us and the glory to God.

Consider the various vocations that God has given to you
(child, student, mother, father, teacher, church officer, doctor, artist, musician, etc.)
Ask: "**How does my Lord Jesus want me to serve him in this vocation?**"