



Majesty



**"Majesty, worship His majesty -
unto Jesus be all glory, power and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority, flow from His throne
unto His own, His anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus -
magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty -
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings."**

"They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." - Mark 1:22

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever." - Jude 24-25

As we continue to study God's attributes, we come to the word "authority." One with authority has the freedom to decide, or the right to act without hindrance. All such authority begins with God. for there is no authority except from God, as Paul says in Romans 13:1. Jesus taught with authority and perfect wisdom, which amazed those who listened. No man could speak the words of God as He did, for He was God.

Today's hymn was written by Rev. Jack Hayford, who explains:

"Majesty describes the kingly, lordly, gloriously regal nature of our Savior - but not simply as an objective statement in worship of which He is fully worthy. "Majesty" is also a statement of the fact that our worship, when begotten in spirit and in truth, can align us with His throne in such a way that His kingdom authority flows to us - to overflow us, to free us and channel through us. We are rescued from death, restored to the inheritance of sons and daughters, qualified for victory in battle against the adversary, and destined for the Throne forever in His presence."

Paul speaks of this transformation in Romans 8:15-17, saying, "You have not received a spirit of slavery leading again to fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, 'Abba! Father!' The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs ..."

The regal majesty of Christ deserves our praise. He has dominion over principalities, with power and absolute majesty. As His children, we are brought into a royal

relationship with God as sons and daughters born into the heavenly family through His majesty, authority, and sovereign power. We live our lives by the authority of Holy Scripture which is the authoritative message of the One who is "the Word."

This goes directly counter to the message of our present culture in America, and we need to cling to God's truth as our only authority by which we measure everything else. The Jewish leaders would often question by what authority Jesus spoke and acted as He did. We cannot be ashamed to stand up and confess that our divine authority is the Bible, even as we show respect for the powers-that-be that are driving our policies and laws away from the holy God to whom they will need to give an account one day. We know who has the ultimate authority.

Erwin Lutzer has written some excellent books about the dangers of this counter-culture, and he exposes the agenda that motivates those who want to completely change our view of authority. Parents of school-age children need to be more aware of what is being taught to even the youngest students and the effort that is being made to move them away from godly values. Pastor Lutzer provides a 7-point list that teachers in North Carolina were given concerning what values they should instill in the children under their care:

"There is no right or wrong, only conditioned responses.
The collective good is more important than the individual.
Consensus is more important than principle.
Flexibility is more important than accomplishment.
Nothing is permanent, except change.
All ethics are situational; there are no moral absolutes.
There are no perpetrators, only victims."

Notice the phrase, "There are no moral absolutes." If there is no fixed standard of right and wrong, and our children are taught to decide this for themselves, there is no hope for our democracy to survive. We will no longer be a people who are guided by right principles, according to the morality set by the authority of our Creator. Rather, we will see a steady decline, and it will be said of us what was said in the book of Judges: "Every man did what was right in his own eyes."

In this day of political correctness, we must pray for courage to stand upon the sure foundation of God's Word and live by its authority. As the opportunities arise, do not be ashamed to speak the truth to some very confused people around us. Thank God that we know the truth that sets us free from Satan's lies, and pray for those who are on the front lines of the battle defending the authority of Scripture. It truly matters in so many ways, and we have been called to boldly proclaim the absolute authority of the Word, "for such a time as this."