**Scripture Reading:** Revelation 5

**Psalters:** 398:1-3 – 356:1-3 – 162:1-2 – 429:1, 3, 4

**The Comfort of Christ’s Reign in Heaven for the Believer**

I. As my Head, He governs and protects my life

II. As my Head, He enriches my life

**I. As my Head, He governs all things in my life**

A. Jesus Christ is the *Head of the Body*: Eph. 1:17-23

 1. consider the implication of the connection between ‘head-body’

 2. ‘headship’ also points to authority

 3. We need to repeat this truth *often to each other*

a. being ‘perplexed about His reign’ happens to all believers

 • Ps. 73, 77; Jer 12:1-3; 2 Cor. 4:7-8; Eccl. 7:13-16

B. Rejoice in the great honor that is givento our Lord Jesus Christ

 1. consider how the ‘angels and elders responded’ (Rev. 5:7-14)

C. Rejoice in the fact that He as our Head governs all things

 1. All things happening in this world *are for the sake of God’s Kingdom*

a. consider Rev. 5; Luke 21:28

 2. Jesus ascended to heaven to use His power to protect against enemies

 a. what is our chief enemy in life of grace?

 b. how does our Shepherd King protect us against this ‘king-self?’

 • His main ‘weapon’ is *suffering:* (Hebrews 12:5-12)

 • striking our ‘idols or sins’ with various afflictions is

- *protective ministry*

 - *compassionate protection*

- *merciful invasion*

*- wisest measures*

 3. All other *enemies* also are *controlled or used for our good* Rom. 8:28

**II. As my Head, He also enriches my life**

A. Jesus as King stands *infinitely above any other king*

 1. He never used His power on earth or in heaven to *enrich Himself*

B. From the throne, He pours heavenly graces through the Holy Spirit

 1. Gospel comfort: ***from Me*** *is* ***thy*** *fruit found* (Hosea 14:4-8)

 2. What fruits is He bringing through His Spirit in His people?

a. spirit of prayer and supplications: (Rom. 8:23)

b. hunger and love for all of the Word of God: Ps. 119:97

c. saving faith in Jesus Christ: 1 Thess. 1:5-6; Rom. 15:13

d. love for God and fellow man: John 13:34-35

e. repentance: Ezek. 37:22-27; Acts 5:31

f. holiness or sanctification: Eph. 2:10; 5:26-27

 g. humility of heart: Eph. 3:8; 1 Cor. 15:9-10

**Come and See…!**

“All my springs are in Thee,” said the man after God’s own heart; and well may we re-echo His words. All our springs, not only of pardon and peace, acceptance and justification, but of happiness and holiness, wisdom and strength, victory over the world, of mortification of a body of sin and death; of every fresh revival and renewal of hope and confidence; of all prayer and praise; of every new budding forth of the soul, as of Aaron’s rod, in blossom and fruit; of every gracious feeling, spiritual desire, warm supplication, honest confession, melting contrition, and godly sorrow for sin … all these spring forth of that life which is hid with Christ in God are in a crucified Lord. J. C. Philpot