

Briefing Document: Christ Exalted: Key Insights

Wednesday-September 16, 2026

Executive Summary

This document synthesizes the teachings and community updates from the "Christ Exalted" gathering. The central theme emphasizes the strength and sovereignty of Jesus Christ as depicted in the Book of Revelation, contrasting this "Strong Jesus" with modern, "weak" cultural depictions. Key takeaways include the necessity of a sincere, personal relationship with Christ over mere religious participation, the eternal nature of heavenly worship, and the total sufficiency of Christ's atoning work on the cross. The briefing also outlines immediate community needs, including prayer requests for those facing serious health challenges and volunteer opportunities for church ministries.

Community Announcements and Prayer Concerns

The session began with updates regarding church operations and the needs of the congregation:

- **Financial and Administrative Updates:** Preparations for the 2027 budget are underway. Members are encouraged to contact Mike or Renee with questions or ideas. An elders' meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21.
- **Ministry and Volunteer Needs:**
 - The Children's Ministry requires volunteers for the nursery and children's church.
 - The "OCC box" in the foyer is collecting hairbrushes, combs, clothing, toothbrushes, and plastic cups for September.
 - A grief support group is available; interested individuals should contact Bob.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Movie Night (September 25):** A screening of *The Great Awakening*.
 - **Trivia Night (October 24):** A "We Care Team" event for teams of six.

The Exalted Christ: A Biblical Perspective

A primary focus of the teaching is the correction of modern misconceptions about the nature of Jesus. The discourse argues against a "weak" or "skinny" portrayal of Christ, instead highlighting His biblical authority and physical strength as a carpenter.

The Throne Room Vision

Drawing from Revelation 5:8-14, the text describes a vivid, majestic scene of heavenly worship.

- **The Imagery of Heaven:** The vision includes four living creatures, twenty-four elders, and "myriads" of angels. The beauty and colors of heaven are described as being beyond human comprehension.
- **The Symbolism of the Bowls:** The golden bowls full of incense represent the prayers of the saints. These are linked to the large bowls used for cleansing in the tabernacle, symbolizing Christ's atoning work.
- **The Worthy Lamb:** The central figure is the Lamb who was slain. Scripture confirms His deity and equality with God the Father. As *Revelation 4:11* states: "*You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.*"

The Role of the Believer

The document outlines the identity and future of those in Christ:

- **A Royal Priesthood:** Believers are not merely spectators but are called to be "*a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*" (1 Peter 2:9).
- **Eternal Reign:** The teaching emphasizes that believers will reign on earth and worship with Christ for eternity.

The Necessity of Sincere Faith

A stern warning is issued against "playing church" or maintaining a superficial connection to faith.

- **The Relationship Test:** Using an analogy of a celebrity fan, the speaker notes that knowing facts about Jesus is not the same as being known by Him. The most critical question is not whether a person knows Jesus, but whether Jesus knows them intimately.
- **The Warning of Departure:** Reference is made to the gravity of *Matthew 7:23*, where Christ tells those who practiced lawlessness, "I never knew you; depart from Me."
- **The Brevity of Life:** Life is described as a "vapor" or the wind—moving quickly from youth to old age. This reality necessitates immediate repentance and submission to God.

Divine Justice and the Atonement

The teaching concludes with the finality of God's judgment and the peace found in His grace.

- **Universal Submission:** Every creature in heaven, on earth, and under the sea will eventually acknowledge Christ's authority. *Philippians 2:10-11* notes: "*that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and*

of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

- **The Settled Debt:** Citing Charles Spurgeon, the speaker explains that for the believer, the debt to divine justice is fully paid. Because Christ said, "It is finished," the handwriting of requirements has been nailed to the cross, and the "account is settled."
- **Benediction of Security:** The closing sentiment relies on *Jude 1:24-25*: "*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.*"

Greek Terminology Reference

Term	Phonetic Pronunciation	Definition
Myriad ¹	MEER-ee-uhd	Derived from the Greek <i>myrias</i> , referring to a unit of ten thousand; used in biblical contexts to describe an innumerable or vast multitude.

¹ *The speaker notes that because ancient languages often lacked a specific word for "millions," the term "myriads and myriads" (10,000 times 10,000) was used to signify a number that is effectively uncountable.*