

Daily Devotional, January 13, 2021

“It Is As You Said”, (Matthew 26:64, NKJV)

“But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, “I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!” Jesus said to him, “It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, “He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?” They answered and said, “He is deserving of death.” Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands, saying, “Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?” (Matthew 26:63-68)

There are many folks, some even educated in the world, who will say that Jesus never said that He was God. I find it hard to believe that anyone would dispute Jesus’ very own words. But maybe they really don’t understand. For the Scripture says, *“But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned”* (1 Corinthians 2:14). Here in our text, when Jesus is asked point blank if He is *“the Christ, the Son of God”*, He answers, “It is as you said.” How much closer to a “yes” could that have been? The fact that *“Christ, the Son of God”* was understood to be a divine title is clear, because these men who were Jews well learned in the Old Testament understood the Lord’s response as a clear claim to deity. They accused Jesus of *“blasphemy.”* And did the Lord correct their understanding? God forbid, for He is the eternal *“Word”*, the *“Mighty God”* (John 1:1; Isaiah 9:6).

In addition to the explanation of the truth of Jesus’ own declaration of His deity, let us further apply by considering what that means for us. Though so much greater than mortal men, He took on our nature in addition to His deity, to reconcile us to the Father. *“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 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”* (Philippians 2:5-11).