

The Redemptive Reign of Jesus

1 Corinthians 15:22-28

Reminders:

- [Membership Class this Saturday, register soon so we can plan](#)
- [Youth Camp, let us know ASAP if you plan to come](#)
- Sign up for HFGs for next week: [Spring Hill](#) and [Columbia](#)
- Download our app to stay in the loop!

²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

1) Think about a time when you had to do something that seemed pointless or dumb- what was that like?

In this passage, Paul explaining to us what is going on during the time between Jesus' resurrection and our own resurrection- the time we are all living in now. He says that before our resurrection can happen, Jesus must reign until all of God's enemies are dealt with.

2) If someone were to ask you what does the reign of Christ look like, how would you answer? What are some of the first things that pop into your head?

Jesus' identity can help us understand what this reign means. If we look back to Genesis, we can see that Adam was entrusted by God with ruling over creation in order to bring it to its designed purpose of glorifying God. Even though he was in ideal circumstances, Adam failed. That failure is what made a second Adam necessary.

3) Jesus laid aside his glory to come as a servant before he ascended to his throne as king. Why is that, and what does it tell us about the way he is reigning and dealing with his enemies?

The life we live now is hard. We struggle with temptation and sin, our minds and bodies do not work the way that they should, and creation itself pushes back at our best efforts. We long to be free from the struggle.

4) As you encounter the struggles and difficulties of life here and now, what are some the thoughts you have about where God is and how he is relating to you in it?

2 Peter 3:9 tells us that, *"The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."* It goes on to say that once he is done redeeming, the end will come when he makes all things new.

With Adam and Eve, we saw God delay their death so that he could give them the promise of a redeemer and apply that redemption to them. To bring the

God hates sin and its effects more than we ever could. But he delays his justice in order to show grace and mercy.

5) How does this understanding of our God's heart shape the way we understand our sin and suffering now?

The church is an outpost or embassy of the kingdom of heaven in the midst of the kingdom of this world- expressions of this redemptive reign of Jesus. Understanding how he is reigning now should shape understanding of what we are doing as his people.

6) How could a distorted view of Jesus' reign affect our church?

7) How do we help each other through the sin and suffering of our life here and now? What does it look like to bear one another's burdens?

8) What should our life together as God's people show the world around us? How do we do it?

Prayer:

What can we praise God for?

What burdens do you have that we can help carry?

What sin do you have to confess so we can care for you?

What other things can we bring to the Father for you?