

“The King’s Word” | Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt | September 12, 2021

Old Testament Reading: [Psalm 119:41-42, 49-50, 65-72](#)

41 Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your promise;
42 then shall I have an answer for him who
taunts me,
for I trust in your word.

49 Remember your word to your servant,
in which you have made me hope.
50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
that your promise gives me life.

65 You have dealt well with your servant,
O LORD, according to your word.
66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
for I believe in your commandments.
67 Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I keep your word.
68 You are good and do good;
teach me your statutes.
69 The insolent smear me with lies,
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts;
70 their heart is unfeeling like fat,
but I delight in your law.

71 It is good for me that I was afflicted,
that I might learn your statutes.
72 The law of your mouth is better to me
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Epistle Reading: [Ephesians 1:15-23](#)

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your
faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all
the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for
you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the
God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of
revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having
the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you
may know what is the hope to which he has
called you, what are the riches of his glorious
inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the
immeasurable greatness of his power toward us
who believe, according to the working of his
great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he
raised him from the dead and seated him at his
right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above
all rule and authority and power and dominion,
and above every name that is named, not only in
this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he
put all things under his feet and gave him as
head over all things to the church, 23 which is
his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel Reading: [Luke 7:36-50](#)

36 One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with
him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and
reclined at table. 37 And behold, a woman of
the city, who was a sinner, when she learned
that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee’s
house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment,

Introduction

As king, Jesus speaks with power, bringing us clarity and protection. Jesus’ word clarifies who we are and who we want to more fully become. God’s word has power to change us, letting us see ourselves and others more clearly. God also acts as our shield. He has power to protect us, defending us from our foes and vices.

Background

1. [Jesus as king brings clarity.](#)
 - a. Simon is known and prominent.
 - b. The woman is a notorious sinner. With tears of joy and thankfulness, she offers perfume, representative of herself. She bows as a sign of sorrow and thankfulness, as before a king.
 - c. Jesus’ presence has clarified her life and all about her. Jesus challenges Simon, who doesn’t see the woman as categorically the same as himself.
 - d. Any time you open God’s word, it comes to you personally with absolute authority and intending to cause change.
2. [Jesus as king offers protection.](#)
 - a. Jesus acts as a shield to the woman, as he does for us.
 - b. Each of us has foes and vices: there is much in the world to be protected from. [Psalm 3:1](#) says, “O LORD, how many are my foes!”
 - c. [Psalm 3:3](#) says, “But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.”
 - d. There is power in God’s word; his power can work in and through us. The greatness of God’s power is immeasurable ([Ephesians 1:19](#)).

Discuss

1. How are you like the woman who anointed Jesus’ feet?
2. How are you like Simon?
3. How will we live if we believe there is real power in Jesus’ word?
4. Whom do you think God is willing to forgive?

Conclusion/Application

Jesus clarifies our identity and vision, reminding us that we have been forgiven much. Jesus also defends us, offering protection. People whose king is Jesus welcome, love, and bless others, even as Jesus welcomed the woman; they listen to God’s word; they love God and love their neighbor; they thank God, humbling themselves as the woman did and offering themselves to their king.

Prayer

Father, thank you that Jesus is the King of Kings. Forgive us for refusing to come to you because of our shame or for being so proud that we can’t accept “sinners.” Please help us view ourselves and others as your creatures made in your image to glorify you. Thank you for sending your Son to seek the lost—even us. Amen.

38 and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." 40 And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." 44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" 50 And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."