

40 DAYS OF *prayer*

WEEK 4 CHRIST OUR COMING KING

Revelation 22:20

As we focus on the life of Christ, this week's theme is *Christ Our Coming King*. In John 14:3, Jesus informed His disciples, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." This passage underscores the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Additionally, believers are assured that they will join Him during His millennial reign upon His return as King. This is considered an honor for those who have trusted in Him and accepted Him as their Savior. The anticipated return of our King provides hope for eternal communion with Him. It remains unknown when this day will arrive, for it is known only by the Heavenly Father. Therefore, as followers, it is essential to remain prepared for the King's arrival and to evangelize, spreading the gospel globally. Upon His return, He will act as the righteous judge, delivering rewards based on individual deeds.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- *Are you prepared for the coming of Jesus Christ?*
- *What happens to those who haven't heard or responded to the gospel?*
- *How often have you shared this truth with others?*

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SANCTIFIED TO BEAR WITNESS

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

Since I was a teenager, medieval movies have fascinated me—the horses, knights, castles, and humble peasants, some of whom unexpectedly rose to greatness as knights or even kings.

However, I learned to admire a King who chose to be a servant. He was crowned with thorns. He did not reign from a majestic throne, but from a Cross where the world thought Him defeated. What they did not understand was that this apparent defeat was the greatest victory humanity has ever seen. Throughout history, we have known kings ruling over kingdoms, but the final moment is yet to come—the day when the King of Kings will break gloriously into history, no longer riding a donkey, but on His cloud steed, ready to rule over every nation.

The psalmist asks, “Who is this King of Glory?” And the resounding answer is: “The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, mighty in battle.”

We have the privilege of living for Him, serving Him, and waiting for Him with faith and anticipation. Does your heart not race with excitement at the thought of seeing Him? Of witnessing earthly kings bow before Him and nations worship Him? Does the thought of standing before His throne, beholding His glory, not fill you with hope?

Do not waver in your faith. Let nothing separate you from His love. Let nothing discourage you. Your King is coming, clothed in glory, with your reward in His hand, ready to bring you into His eternal greatness.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Lord, King of Kings, the strong and mighty One, it is a privilege to be Your servant. Help me never forget who You are, to value Your glory and greatness. Allow me to be a faithful servant and let nothing separate me from You. I want to long for Your return more and more each day, to enjoy Your majesty in glory.

My daily walk and weaknesses—the enemy will try to use them to keep me from enjoying You for all eternity. Embrace me with Your love and never let go of me with Your mighty hand. Amen.

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JESUS, THE LION OF JUDAH

REVELATION 5:5

At our most recent Council 2025, we were reminded through an old video testimony of our former Alliance president, John Stumbo, that there are moments in our lives when we are going through painful times where we, too, can say, “I don’t like this journey I am on . . . but God is in it, and God is good . . .” In these moments, we might feel like Jesus in Gethsemane, where we weep because of the cup we are having to bear, but yet surrender to the hope of God’s plan in it.

John is told in Revelation 4:1 that he would be shown what will take place at the end of time. In chapter 5, when no one is found worthy to open the scrolls that will not only reveal these times but will set into motion the restoration of all things, he begins to weep. In the vision, he is told not to weep because there is One worthy, Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David. He is able to restore all things.

Our painful experience of our sin-broken world oftentimes leaves us weeping and longing for something better . . . more than that, for something perfect—a time where there will be absolutely no more mourning, crying, or pain because the former things corrupted and broken by sin will be no more, and we will be in the presence of our King. Hallelujah! Our conquering King will bring it all to an end!



REFLECTION PRAYER

We do not like the suffering we find ourselves in today (take this time to name those things), nor the suffering we see others go through because of brokenness around us. We see it through social media around our world, in our cities, and even in our homes and churches— injustice, sickness, and death. We long for their end. We long for Your Kingdom to come. Come, King Jesus! Bring it to an end! Amen.

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RETURN OF THE KING

MATTHEW 25:31

Son of Man was the title our Lord Jesus used most often to describe Himself. It is an acknowledgment of His humanity, while at the same time, calling attention to His sole claim as Israel's Messiah and King of Glory. In Daniel 7:9-14, we are introduced to the One bearing the title of *Son of Man* as He appears before the Ancient of Days to receive glory and a Kingdom that would never cease to exist.

In Matthew 25:31, we see our Lord Jesus Christ, rapidly approaching His death on the Cross for our sins, confidently speaking about Himself sitting on His glorious throne and judging the nations. He knew that after the vicarious sacrifice of His precious life, He would rise victoriously from the grave and establish His earthly Kingdom, where He would reign and rule in righteousness.

As human beings living in a fallen world, we rarely see anyone claiming rights to a throne that has a genuine desire to make life better for those under their leadership. While we acknowledge that our God ordained government for the good of the people, those who govern often abuse their power. It is good to know that we can look forward with anticipation and certainty that one day soon, all the kingdoms of this world will be surrendered to the One who will sit on a throne of glory, and everyone who is a part of that Kingdom will be blessed by a benevolent dictator. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!



REFLECTION PRAYER

Father, we give You praise and glory for Your marvelous plan that provided redemption for us and the blessed privilege of being able to enjoy the Kingdom that will soon be manifested on Earth. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would fill us and use us to give others the opportunity to respond to the gospel and be delivered from the kingdom of darkness and have the privilege of worshiping You as You sit on Your glorious throne. May Your Kingdom come, and Your will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

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THE RETURN OF THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

2 TIMOTHY 4:8

Her eyes are fixed on the horizon, anxiously scanning for any movement, any sign. On the pier with her are hundreds who, like her, struggle to maintain their composure in breathless anticipation. These seven months seemed like an eternity, but they pale in comparison to the agony of every second that passes waiting on this pier. Soon, her husband will be disembarking from his ship, and she will be in his arms. It will feel as though not a single moment has passed since they last embraced, and at the same time, as if it'd been an eternity. Soon. Scanning the horizon, a shape seems to appear. Every second that passes confirms: he's back. The wait is over.

Jesus promised in Acts 1 to return and take His place as King of this world, and we do not hope nor wait in vain. Christ's return is the end of all suffering, division, and pain, when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Christ is Lord. And yet, waiting is hard.

We live in a hurt and broken world. Our work can feel insignificant, leading us to think, *Does anything I do matter?* Anticipating Christ's return reminds us that we are not of this world and drives us to turn our eyes toward heaven. It reminds us that there are so many people who have never heard of Him, and it compels us to share His love with them. So, remain steadfast, and keep your eyes on the horizon.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Lord, we come to You with a heart that longs not for reward but for Your presence. We anxiously await Your return, but we are so grateful for Your love, grace, and power that sustains us. Lord, let our hearts increase and abound in love toward one toward another and toward all those who don't know You. When the way grows dim, Your presence is our guiding light. Let our lives reflect Your justice, Your mercy, and Your love. We wait, we love, we hope. We pray all this in the matchless and anointed name of Jesus, amen.

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CHRIST IS THE BEGINNING AND THE END

REVELATION 22:13

The beginning and the end is not just a thing, an event, or a news item. It is a person: Jesus. Three phrases woven into one thought cast such majesty on Him. We hear about beginnings and endings. It is Jesus who wraps Himself in both ends.

Jesus begins with “I AM,” a phrase echoing words He spoke on Earth declaring indivisible oneness with the Father, using the name revealed in Exodus.

Sitting back, I think of beginnings and endings. Things begin; things end. Ecclesiastes says there is a “time” for everything. Jesus stands as the encompassing focal point of it all.

Much of life, however, is lived in the somewhat awkward middle; not the beginning and not the end. It is territory that is often twisted by changing circumstances. It can seem bewildering or lonely. It may be health or the loss of someone loved. It may be a job change or distance in a relationship. Life in the middle speaks of another promise of God in terms of start and finish. He is the Author and Finisher of our faith; a journey described as faith from first to last. What He starts, He finishes!

He is in the beginnings and present in the endings. We can trust Him for the middle.

Sometimes life looks like a mess. But it isn’t a mess. Sometimes we feel like a mess. But we are not a mess. We are His children, and He never leaves us. He is our Alpha and Omega and everything in between.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Dear Lord, our hearts are stilled when we know that You are God. Jesus, You calmed the waters and storms. You continue to calm the waters. We find such peace and rest knowing You are indeed the Author and Finisher of our faith. We thank You for not walking away. You are Alpha and Omega in all things. Sometimes while living in the middle, it is hard to discern what is happening around us. We find our rest in You alone. Amen.

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THE REIGN OF THE LORD

ZECHARIAH 14:9

Zechariah recorded this book of stories, dreams, and visions for a weary nation of Israel—to challenge them to remain faithful to their covenant with God and to inspire hope for God's future Kingdom. We have that same hope and promise today!

Home is not just a physical place; it's the embodiment of comfort, familiarity, and a sense of belonging. With evil permeating the world, we long for Jesus' return. Home is in Jesus' loving arms.

Zechariah 14:9 answers Israel's heartfelt yearning: "The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name."

Imagine the weariness of a nation estranged from their homeland, facing doubt and uncertainty about their future. Zechariah's words are a lifeline, reminding them that their journey has a purpose. His words give a glimpse into restoration, where God's sovereignty reigns supreme. It's our picture of hope!

You may feel distanced from God's purpose or promises for your life, but His unwavering goodness and faithfulness never cease. It's not about a political party or how the world reacts. We, as God's children, are in the world but not of the world. King Jesus is above it all and reigns supreme! God has promised His followers that He will bring them home one day to a restored Kingdom (see Rev. 21).

We can trust in our future Kingdom to come. Home is not that far off! "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:10–11). Christ is Lord of all!



REFLECTION PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, we place our trust and hope in Your sovereignty and justice. Use us as You see fit until Your Kingdom comes. We are Your servants in this current world to help others find Your future Kingdom, with the work already done in what your Son, Jesus, accomplished for us on the Cross. The reign of the Lord is at hand, but You still have work for us to do. Allow us to find open hearts and minds eager for Your purposes, knowing there is a beautiful Kingdom waiting for us upon Your return. In Jesus' magnificent name, amen.

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THE ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD

REVELATION 11:15

Revelation 11:15 says that once God's Kingdom fully arrives, "He will reign for ever and ever."

Can you picture it? Our King, in person with us and reigning over all of Creation—all we experience and know—forever and ever!

To have forever with the Lord . . . it's unfathomable. Forever is big. Forever is a long time. Forever is limitless. Forever is unbound.

Forever is coming—for you, me, and everyone else who's ever had the chance to walk this earth. But I have to ask myself, *Am I living life right now in light of forever?*

If I'm honest, no. So often I find myself weak and wearied by the here and now, troubled by my past, and worried about my future. I rarely take the time to look up from the urgency of the immediate to remember where my finite feet are marching me toward—of Whom it is I'll be coming home to at the end of this life.

As members of Jesus' already—but—not—yet Kingdom, we've been tasked to go make disciples now, baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything He has commanded us (see Matt. 28:19–20). Sometimes obeying Him seems too hard or scary, but this life is too short to live as if eternity isn't on the line, especially for those who do not yet know Christ. He promises to be with us always—a truth for now and forever. May we spend today living out what matters most to Him.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, please forgive me for forgetting forever because of now. Please help me to pause, breathe, and recenter on You the next time I'm tempted to let the hurries and worries of life sweep me away. Please help me to not neglect my relationship with You or turn away from the good work that You've set out for me to do. Please grant me great anticipation for the day I get to be face-to-face with You in Your eternal Kingdom. Until then, may I live my life grounded in Your completed works, remembering You've already conquered and won, forever. Amen.