

For Christ's Sake: Trusting God in the Calm and Crisis

“He Lived:” Three Pre-Easter Principles

2 Kings 25:29–30

The Lord's Day Morning | Resurrection Sunday

March 31, 2024

Review of Kings

1. The Calm and the Crisis: The book of Kings (1 and 2 Kings are one book in two volumes) records over 400 years of Israel's history, especially the reign of 20 Davidic kings (979 BC–560 BC). Most of the crises are brought on the people by their own foolish pride and rebellion against God. In the beginning, there are more seasons of calm than crisis. Towards the end of this period, there is more crisis than calm. Through it all, God remains completely committed to his people, fully trustworthy in his promises to provide a King above all others. This foreshadows Jesus, the only King of Kings.
2. The Davidic Covenant: This is the key that unlocks the book of Kings. In 2 Samuel 7:12–16, God promised David that one of his descendants would rule from his throne forever. This foreshadows Jesus, the righteous Branch and Son of David, legal heir to the throne (Jer. 33:15; Mt. 1:1-17).
3. The Christs of Kings: Every son of David who is anointed as King is a Christ (anointed one). Therefore, these 20 fallen men were Christs. This foreshadows Jesus, who is the only sinless Christ.
4. For Christ's Sake: Throughout the “Nevertheless Cycle,” God is faithful to bless his people. Nevertheless, they rebel in pride. God is faithful to execute justice. Nevertheless, for David's sake, God shows mercy and forgives. Nevertheless, his justice must be executed on a willing substitute. This foreshadows Jesus and for Christ's sake we are forgiven (1 Kings 11:12,13,32,34; 15:4; 2 Kings 8:19; 19:34; 20:6; John 1:29; 1 Cor. 15:3).
5. “He Lived:” The book ends with these two words, on a low note and a glimmer of hope. The last generation of Davidic Kings, Jehoiachin, lives at the mercy of the King of Babylon, the instrument of God. This foreshadows King Jesus who humbly submitted to earthly authorities for the glory of the Father and the good of his people (Jn. 17:1).

“He Lived:” Three Pre-Easter Principles

1. The Exclusivity Principle: He lived because through him God provides the only way _____.
2. The Extraordinary Principle: He lived because of miracles that validate _____.
3. The Exile Principle: He lived because God's people need hope as a holy nation dispersed _____.