

Series: **1=3 - The truth about God and His nature – week 6**

CDOBC – beginning on 4/30/17

Today's Title: **“Jesus-King”**

June 4, 2017 - Selected Passages

OBJECTIVE: To help people know Jesus is the great, eternal King who has served us, and we serve and obey each day.

Opening Prayer

July 4th - 1 month away...we celebrate our nation's independence...our nation's desire to be out from under the tyrannical reign of a king!

And here we are this morning, thinking about Jesus as King!

Why should His kingship matter?

Why should we care?

Why is this a positive thing, and not something to be rejected and exercise our independence?

The problem is not the monarchy - but the nature, temperament, honor and righteousness of the king.

In ancient Israel, the king was a co-regent - ruling and reigning over the people on behalf of God...to bring the love and righteousness of God to the civic and political life of the nation.

But, the kings of Israel were not of proper temperament, they lacked honor, and they were not righteous.

Even David, who was the *high-water mark* of Israel's monarchy, was corrupt and sinful.

Ancient societies were positive about the idea of a king - especially a great and honorable king. Even some current societies in various places around the world have this same mindset of their king - or their ruler.

But, our modern, western mind is not so inclined.

We are not so excited or romantic about a king. Our nation's obsessions with the British Royal Family seems to indicate otherwise, but I don't think we would be so infatuated if they were suddenly given power to rule over us!

But we need to understand the kingship of Jesus not through our American political mindset, but through God's view of history and through the perfections of God.

You need to understand that in His title and role as King, Jesus turned every human idea about royalty upside-down.

- The King of the Universe was born in a stable, while the unstable, paranoid madman was in the palace.
- The all-powerful King of the ages rode triumphantly into Jerusalem on a donkey, not a powerful Stallion.
- The perfect King wore a crown of thorns, as He gave His life to save others.
- This King announced His Kingdom was at hand, as He served and loved others.
- This King defeated death and sin as He was risen from the dead.

- This King promises His life - eternal life to all who place their faith in Him.
- This King doesn't promise you riches and worldly luxuries, but He offers you a rich and fulfilling life.
- This King promises to return - His 2nd coming - where He will rule and reign with power - and those who have faith in Him and are faithful will rule and reign with Him for all eternity.

This is King Jesus.

Now I want us to look at Scripture and understand the:

Promises of the future King...

Presentation of the King...

Rejection of the King...

Return and Reign of the King...

The Rule and Reign of His followers.

Open your bibles to **Genesis 49:8**...while you're turning there allow me to remind you of where we have been the last 5 weeks, so you can place today's message in its proper context.

We are in a 9-week series about the nature and truth of God. We studied the first 3 weeks about God as a Triunity and as the Creator of all things, we then considered the righteousness and holiness of God, and the 3rd week we learned of our loving and redeeming God by looking at the 3 parables of the lost things in **Luke 15**. We then began to study

the 2nd person in the Triunity - in the Godhead - who took on flesh and took the name 'Jesus'. In week #4 we looked at Jesus and His title and office of Prophet, last week we considered the title and office of Jesus as our great High Priest, and this morning we're studying the title and office of Jesus as King.

Think of these three titles and offices in these terms or spheres of activity:

Prophet: Revelation

Priest: Advocate

King: Authority

So as we focus our thoughts on Jesus as King, let's begin with:

God's Promises of the future King

Your bible is open to **Genesis 49:8, 10** (Jacob blessing his sons)

"Judah (4th son), your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you.

10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

A "scepter" is a staff which a king carries and it symbolizes the king's sovereignty. Jesus was born from the line of Judah (Matthew 1:2), and this prophecy in **Genesis 49:10** points forward to Jesus - the Messiah and future King.

Fast forward to **2 Samuel 7:12-16** (about 600 yrs. after Jacob) - a passage referred to as the Davidic Covenant.

(Explain: 'Near and far' fulfillment in Biblical prophecy - like climbing a hill or mountain, only to realize there's another summit to climb which you couldn't see from the bottom of the first hill.)

“(David) When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to Me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,

15 but My steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.

16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

Most of the promise to David concerns his son Solomon, but the last line in **vs. 13 & 16** looks forward to an eternal King - a King who lives “forever”.

Let's move forward again - to **Isaiah 9:6-7** (200-300 years after David)
“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace....on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.”

And in **Zechariah 9:9**

“Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” (Quoted in Jn 12:15)

Promises of a coming King - a King who offers salvation - a King who would be eternal - God Himself.

Presentation of the King

The O.T. promises the future King, and in the N.T. we see the presentation of the King - or you might say the arrival of the King.

Matthew 2:2 (about 1,000 yrs. after David)

“...wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?”

Luke 1:30-33

“And the angel said to her...He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

From the moment of His conception to the moment of His birth, the Bible clearly states the Kingship of Jesus. Toward the end of His ministry, as He entered Jerusalem in fulfillment of **Zechariah 9** which we read a few moments ago, we see the people praising Jesus as the long-awaited King in the line of David.

Mark 11:10

“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

John 12:13

So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” The King has arrived!

Less than a week later, Jesus was arrested and is standing before Pilate.

Matthew 27:11 (NASB)

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” And Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.”

John 19:15, 19

They cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”

Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

Jesus was a Savior King. His primary mission was as Savior - to “give His life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). He offered the Kingdom to the nation of Israel - He made it plain to them in **Matthew 3:2, 4:17** and **Mark 1:15** - He called Israel to “...repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

But they weren't interested...and they rejected their King.

Rejection of the King

John 1:11

“He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.”

The ultimate rejection was the crucifixion and the embrace of Barabbas instead of Jesus.

They rejected His message - and His offer of salvation.

When you reject Jesus, you are rejecting the one rightful King who came to offer salvation - a King who came to serve - a King who came to love.

Rejecting Jesus as your King is the greatest mistake - the greatest sin you can ever commit.

He alone is worthy - and fit to be King...your King.

The Return and Reign of the King

Jesus was rejected, but His Kingdom did not end.

Jesus was crucified but His power was not diminished.

Jesus rose from the dead, and ascended to Heaven, but

His departure was temporary...He promised to come

back, and when He returns, He will not come offering

salvation, but He will come as the eternal King of the

Universe. Of this, the Scripture is clear:

Daniel 7:13

“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him.

And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

Revelation 15:3 (Speaks to Jesus' sovereignty)

And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, “Great and amazing are Your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations!”

Revelation 19:11, 14-16

“Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.”

“And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following Him on white horses.

15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.”

When Jesus returns, His Kingdom will be established and His reign will be dominating.

Righteousness will be established and:

“every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:10-11)

“Lord” = a recognition of authority - admission of submission to what the “Lord” says and commands.

When that happens, it will be a glorious time - what we refer to as the Millennial Kingdom which is detailed in **Revelation 20**, and looked forward to all throughout the O.T. One of the wonderful realities of Jesus as King, is for His followers. We are His subjects, but we also have the honor of serving with Him.

The Rule and Reign of His followers.

The Millennial Kingdom - and the eternal state is not going to be boring - you will not be flying around on a

cloud strumming a harp, completely bored out of your mind.

Neither are you going to be watching football games 24/7 while you eat nachos and never gain any weight. There will be work to do...glorious work...for the glorious and powerful King!

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."

Those who put their faith in Christ will have a special role in the Kingdom. We are (and will be) part of the royal family of God!

1 Peter 2:9a

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood..."

We have a place of honor and dignity - not because of what we have done, but due to what Jesus has done on our behalf.

Ephesians 2:5b-6

"by grace you have been saved -- and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus..."

We will serve Him - and reign with Him.

2 Timothy 2:11-12

"The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him..."

Jesus will be the center point of the Kingdom. His work of atonement - His sacrifice for sins will be front and center as He fulfilled the role of priest, bringing a sacrifice to the Father for the sins of the people.

At the same time, Jesus will be the sovereign King over all things - forever!

Revelation 1:5-6

“...and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Apply it...

King Jesus is your final authority

If we are honest, we will admit to the rebellion which is deep in our heart. Our sin causes us to prefer our own way - and to reject God’s way. Jesus is our final authority - which means we must submit to His commands.

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.”

“...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you...”

(Matthew 28:18, 20)

Submit your life to Him - not only for salvation, but for each and every day.

Steward the King’s creation (Biblical Environmentalism)

When C.S. Lewis wrote his *Chronicles of Narnia* series, he referred to the children who had been transported to Narnia as “*kings and queens*”, which is a direct reference to the Bible’s teaching that

believers will rule and reign with Christ - that we are members of a “royal priesthood”.

Part of the charge we have from our King is to subdue and steward the world He has made.

- I reject the modern-day environmental movement which has denied the existence of God and placed nature in His rightful place.
- I reject the belief and philosophy which elevates nature above humanity and places equal value on people and animals.
- But I also reject the belief and philosophy which says *Jesus is coming back, and we'll have a new heaven and new earth, so this earth doesn't matter.*

Or...

The only things that matter are spiritual things, so I don't need to be concerned about issues of pollution, treatment of animals and issues of justice.

No...since we are Christians...since we are children of the King and members of the “royal priesthood”, we care a great deal about these things!

- This is one of the reasons over the course of church history so many hospitals and clinics were

established by Christians around the world to care for those who were without medical care.

- This is why we care for the poor and the elderly, when many in the world want to discard them to a corner in the room, and the reason they state is, *“They aren’t very useful to us.”*

Because Jesus is King - and because we are His subjects and His children, we care for what is His.

King Jesus will judge the world

A wicked King is to be feared because his judgments are selfish and flawed. (Illus. - I’m flawed: pic of the upside down parking sign I put up last Sunday)

A wicked King is to be feared because he favors those who can line his treasure vaults with more treasure.

A righteous King is also to be feared - not because He is mean or selfish, but He should be feared by those who are not righteous.

But this King - King Jesus was righteous - and He gave His life as payment for yours.

When your life is over - or when He returns - you will give an answer to the King for your sins.

Either you will say: *I have placed my faith in You - because of Your love and grace, my debt is paid in full.”*

Or...

You will stand before the King with nothing to say, and the judgment for your sins will fall to you, since you have rejected His offer of salvation.

Are you ready to face the judgment of King Jesus?

You have the King's power in your life

This means we have the power of God - the power of the King at our disposal to overcome the world and defeat sin in our life.

1 John 4:4

"Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

In any Kingdom, having the power and approval of the King is of great value and empowers you to do many things.

For the Christian, you have the power of Christ in your life - the power of the King - which means you can obey His commands and overcome the temptation and sin in your life.

What a joy to know the nature and truth of Jesus as our Prophet, Priest and our eternal King.

What a joy to know His kingship impacts my life now...and we rule and reign with Him...forever!

Close in prayer