

Topical Sermon

Christ As King

- I. Saving Name
- II. Greatness in Character
- III. Coming King

Slav Kirkeland
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Christ As King

Luke 1: 30-33

Do not use a text for a Topical Sermon.

In searching out God's Word for scriptures concerning "Christ as King," my heart has been blessed and thrilled as I have read and compared the kingship of Christ with the kingship of other kings in the Bible and of those who have been kings since the writing of the Bible.

My heart has been thrilled and blessed because I cannot find a king living or dead who has in any degree measured up to our

King, Christ Jesus

Jesus Christ was the Lowly Child, yet the "Mighty God." He was stripped of all His glory, and still He was more glorious in His weakness than was any king in His highest glory. He was, is, and forever is, Jesus Christ our Lord, our King, the King of Kings, King of Kings.

Before Christ could be our King, however, He was our Saviour. When the Angel Gabriel came to Mary, and told her that she would be the Saviour of the world, He said, "Thou shalt call His Name Jesus" for He shall be the Saviour of the world.

The Name "Jesus" itself means "Saviour". Every time I read the story of the conception and birth of our Lord I try to imagine myself in Mary's place.

It is only natural for every mother to have the hope that some day her son will be a man of high esteem or even a king or a president. I imagine the delight, the joy, the blessing and the happiness that flooded Mary's heart when her hope and her wish had been granted. She didn't have to live in suspense wondering what her son would turn out to be, but she knew her son would be the Saviour of the world.

L.P. and "the King of Kings"

But as we look deeper into the scene we find that in order that Mary could experience that joy, and blessings, in order that we might experience the benefits of the Saviour and in order that we might have the blessing of being a child of The King and a partaker of His inheritance a great sacrifice had to be made.

God, in measuring the depth of man's need, could only meet that need by the gift of His only Son.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (Jno. 3:16).

That Christ could be our Saviour He had to sacrifice all for us. He had to bear all ^{OF} our burdens, our sicknesses and all ^{OF} our sins.

He took our place that we might escape the judgment and punishment that was due us.

U.C. As our Saviour, Christ saves us from sin. "for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt 1:21).

L.C. It was the greatest disaster of the world when Adam let the tempter, Satan, win. For Adam was hurled from his throne. It was as though man's only chance had been lost, but, Glory to Jesus, He came to redeem us from our sins. He saves us from its defiling and condemning power.

Jesus saves us from the law of sin, and we find that things we once loved we have no more when Christ comes into our hearts. II Cor. 5:17, "There-

fore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Jesus saves us from the wrath that is to come because of sin. I Thes. 1-10, "Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come." Rom. 5-9, "He shall be saved from wrath through him."

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What is this wrath? The punishment to those who refuse to accept Jesus as their Saviour.

Turn with me to Rev. 20:15, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." II Thes. 1:8-9, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

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You remember also the story of the rich man in Hades lifting up his eyes being in torment.

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These are just mild pictures of what the wrath of God shall be when it comes upon them who have refused to accept His gift to the world, His only begotten Son, Christ Jesus.

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Jesus saves us from sin by putting Himself between the sinner and his guilt. This is beautifully and vividly portrayed in the 53rd Chapter of Isaiah.

Greater love hath no King than this King, that would suffer and sacrifice and take the death sentence himself to bring deliverance to the most ungrateful, unworthy group of sinners as we humans are.

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I am reminded of the story told me when I was but a child of a young

Write it

boy who had left home at an early age and acquainted himself with small time crooks. After being away from home for about eight or ten years his mother received word from the state penitentiary^{IA} that her boy had sinned away his right to live and would be hanged for the murder of a certain man. the following week

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Heart-broken, grief-stricken and ^{IN} panic she rushed to the place where her son was awaiting death. The mother entered the cell and talked to her son for awhile. She refreshed his memory of his early teaching at home of Christ and His power to save the one who confesses his sins.

The boy refused to listen to the sentimental, melodramatic story as he called it and asked his mother to leave.

With tear-filled eyes and a sorrow-filled heart the mother went to the head warden and told her story of how she had raised her boy to fear God, but that he had come in contact with the wrong crowd and had left home. She explained to the warden that her son was but a young boy and that he was going to die before his time unless he could be spared. She went on to ask him if she could exchange places with her son and die in his stead that he might have another opportunity to give his heart to Christ that he would be prepared to die when his time came.

With astonishment the warden told her he would not even consider such a request.

The mother was ^Epersistant however, and before the week had elapsed

she had convinced the warden and judge that she should die instead of her son.

Through this week of persistent endeavor to persuade these men to let her son go free and take her life she had also continued to visit her son daily and tell him the story of Jesus. He refused to accept it and one day told his mother to get out and stay out.

The day came for the execution. The boy was marched out to the execution chamber. To his utter surprise and amazement he saw his own dear mother in his stead, dying that he might have life.

Needless to say the son's heart was crushed, but he accepted Christ as his Saviour and King.

Our hearts are stirred at such an illustration. Yet Christ in His great love did just that same thing only in a much greater measure. He did it that we might have a second chance of being an heir to His Kingdom. He bore the guilt by coming between us and our sins.

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Christ saves us from our self. In Gal. 2:20 the "I" is to be "crucified with Christ" that the body of sin might be destroyed.

Let us consider our condition. Here "we are born in sin" with defiled blood coursing through our veins. We are morally sick with sin. How loving, merciful and thoughtful was God to send a King who is a healer and who has healed us from our moral sickness.

Taking into consideration then, that our natural selves are morally corrupt and sinful, think of what we should be were we to live according to our self-righteousness.

As we look at the conditions of the world today, what a corruptable, damnable

condition it is in. Why? Because it has been ruled and governed by the self-wisdom of men who are corrupt and morally sick and have filthy, adulterous, defiled blood coursing through their veins.

That is not the only reason the world is in such a state of confusion.

Another reason is the sinful self-effort on the part of the governors and Congressmen who want vices of hell and the devil to prevail in order to increase population and growth of towns and cities. It is also their haughty self-righteousness that brings racial discrimination.

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God's Word says that "his self-righteousness is as filthy rags" in his sight.

Oh, that we would ^{pray} that men's eyes would be opened, that they would see that their hearts would be touched, that they would feel their absolute, positive need of God in their lives. May they realize that there is only peace and contentment when Jesus Christ, "the Lord of Lords" and King of Kings rules and reigns with in.

King of Kings }
Lord of Lords }
L.C.
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Self-wisdom, self-effort, and self-righteousness are all enemies from which we need to be delivered, and from which we are saved when Christ our King reigns with in.

Gabriel confirmed the sovereignty of Jesus by telling Mary, "He would be great."

We all are amazed of the greatness of Christ's virgin. For he was called the Son of the Highest.

In Isa. 9:6 we see that "as a child he was born, as a son, he was given." Being "the Son of the Highest" he is higher than the angels, or than any created one. Yet, he who was of

the highest and belonged to the highest descended to the very lowest for us even so far as "becoming obedient unto death."

More than anything, my mind wonders in amazement over the greatness of the love of Christ. "He so loved that he gave his very self." Since he was "the Son of the highest" truly his love was of the highest degree. His love was so great that he not only was "obedient to death" but he conquered death, for his strength was stronger than the firm hold of death.

My heart rejoiced when we sing the song:

"Death cannot keep its prey
Jesus, my Saviour
He tore the bars away
Jesus my Lord"

With His great love is His great power. How desperately did Hitler strive to gain world power, how desperately did Mussolini and Stalin try but in vain. For Christ our King is the only all-powerful one. He said, "All power is given unto Me." Nothing is impossible with Him. He can save from the uttermost to the uttermost.

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Can this all-powerful King then be compared with the puny, weaklings who claim to be our King and rulers?

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Just now "Christ's Kingdom" is not of this world, but it is within you and me. But he shall yet put down all authority and "reign from sea to sea." "He shall see the travail of his soul and be satisfied," (Isa. 53:11). He was "born a Saviour" but he was also "born King of the Jews."

✓ "He had no where to lay his head," but He shall yet be King of Kings."

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The time has not yet come for His appearing, but when He does come again it will be the glorious

appearing of our great God and Saviour "the King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

L.P.

✓ He shall reign for ever over all, whose right it is to reign."

✓ "Even so, Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20)

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