



Christ Our King Of Kings

Chelsea Community Church of Christ

Sunday 21st

November 2021

Scripture: John
18:33–37 and Rev
1:4–8

Today is known as
“Reign of Christ
Sunday.”

It marks the end of the church year, so it is the church’s version of New Year’s Eve. It is the day when we remember that Christ is our King and that He will return one day to claim His kingdom here on earth.

There are not many kingdoms in the world today and the kings of the few remaining ones have practically lost all their power and authority. These days some kings on occasions dress and behave just like everyone else to prevent being recognised. Let me share a short story of one such king to reflect on and compare with our King Jesus.

Wisdom Story – the Beggar–King.

Jesus Christ did something similar. Jesus did not come down to earth wearing His Kingly robes and behaving like a normal king would. He left His Realm in Heaven, became flesh and lived among us since only a sinless man could redeem the human race.

Christ, the King of kings, died in our place to give us His life. It is therefore unimaginable that one would obey an earthly king like

Caesar and refuse to obey Jesus Christ. Pilate recognised Caesar as a king, served and obeyed him but failed to recognise the King of Kings and had Him treated worse than a criminal.

Jesus Christ took our place and died on the cross to give us His righteousness so that we could become God's beloved children. All we need to do is to believe "in Him whom God has sent." (John 6:29)

The prevalent idea sadly of many people, including Church members, is that the power and authority of Christ is to be used to do what we want.

Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, who is and who was and who is to come. There is nothing that He doesn't know, so there are no unknown factors that can sabotage His return.

As God's beloved children we have access to His presence and His grace. The grace of God is not only God's undeserved favour but also God's empowerment to lead a new abundant life.

There is nothing we have done to deserve this. It is only because of what Christ did on our behalf. Christ gave His life to make a relationship with God possible.

Let me ask you today – Are you enjoying the blessings of this relationship or are you missing out on God's blessings?

The King of kings makes us a new creation which does not depend on anything we have done but on what Christ has done for "By grace are we saved through faith, and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God". (Eph. 2:8)

Simply put the Son of God became the Son of man that sons of men may become sons of God. Christ has done so much for us that He deserves our attention and devotion.

This is only possible with a renewal of the mind which only comes from reading and meditating on the Word of God, Christ deserves from us a life of service. And a life of blessing others. This life of service is through the love and care for people Jesus loved and cared about. He loved and cared about the sick, the possessed, the outcasts, the hungry, and those in all kinds of prison.

If Christ were to visit you today – what, if any, changes would you make?

Would you continue doing the same things you always do?

Would you continue saying the things you always say?

Would you take Him with you everywhere you had planned to go?

Or, would you, perhaps, change your plans until He left?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your closest friends?

Or would you hope they would stay away until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay on forever?

Or would you long for Him to leave?

It would be interesting to know what we would do if Jesus Christ came in person to spend some time with us.

Do you really believe that Jesus is the king of kings?

Pilate allowed Jesus to be crucified with the words 'King of the Jews' written above his head in three different languages although he did not believe it.

When we turn to the Book of Revelation we find hope in a God we can trust and expectation for a future that God has created.

That's because Jesus is the beginning and the ending, the dawn of the world and its dusk. The Book of Revelation tells us to lean into our faith in a Christ who holds the future in His hands.

Nothing can frustrate His eternal will, and that eternal will includes you and I who will be spending eternity with Him in His eternal kingdom here on earth.

Each of the seven churches received a special letter from Christ through the Book of Revelation. Each church is described – loveless; persecuted; compromising; corrupt; dead; lukewarm and faithful. Where would you place our church?

Many avoid reading Revelation and I agree, it can be confusing but very revealing for what is coming when Christ returns.

You will notice if you read it that the number 7 is extremely important – 7 churches, 7 fold spirit is another name for the Holy Spirit. Seven is used throughout Revelation to symbolize completeness and perfection. God does a lot of things in sevens.

There are 7 days in a week; the cells in your body change every 7 years; our pulse beats slower every 7 days; 7 feasts of Jehovah; 7 sayings from the cross; 7 secrets in the kingdom parables.

The number 7 is found 54 times in the book of Revelation alone. 7 churches, 7 spirits, 7 lampstands, 7 stars, 7 lamps of fire, 7 seals, 7 horns – the list goes on.

The number 7 means perfection and completeness. All three members of the Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit were involved in the creation of the Book of Revelation, including the passage we heard from Revelation 1:4–8 earlier in today’s service. John refers to God as “the One who is and who was and who is to come.”

God is in control of our unpleasant past, our unnerving present and our uncertain future. In our present, sin-filled world, guilt is something we avoid. We run from it frantically, drown it in all kinds of substances, escape from it through social media and entertainment, talk about it to a therapist, blame it on someone else or suppress it through mental gymnastics, but we can’t avoid it.

It’s like a stain that won’t come out of our clothes no matter how many times we wash them or what type of detergent we use. Salvation is God’s gift to undeserving sinners such as us. We must never forget that. This grace gives us a relationship that offers us true peace and that peace helps us overcome any problems we face. Jesus is the only thing that can wash away our sins.

Jesus reigns and cares about the ultimate details of our lives. No matter what comes against us in this life, no matter if all of the power of pain and chaos of the universe seems to overtake us all at once, no matter if we can’t control one single thing or fix one single thing in our lives, the worst is over and the healing has begun, because the Lamb of God is on His heavenly throne.

The purpose of our Christian lives is based on our faith in a God who is eternally past, present and future.

It starts in the present. Each of us must encounter and experience the presence of God in our own lives on a daily basis. He continually reaches into our lives and transforms us. He gives us a future to look forward to. We need to look forward to this royal inheritance. We need to begin practicing for the perfected life that will be ours someday.

Our understanding of who Jesus is determines our eternal destiny after death.

To know Jesus is to know who we are and what we really are in this world.

To know Jesus is to know the security of purpose and the assurance of peace.

Jesus is both Lord and Saviour. He has allowed us to know Him personally like never before.