

The Bulletin

Meeks Street Church of Christ

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November 26, 2023

“Jesus The King”

By Ethan R. Longhenry



Jesus is called "Jesus Christ" so often that many believe "Christ" to be a last name. But what does it mean for Jesus to be the Christ? Why is that so important? What does it mean to be "the Messiah," or "the Christ"?

“Messiah” is an English way of making sense of the Hebrew word *moshiach*, and “Christ” the Greek word *christos*. They both mean “anointed,” thus, “covered with oil,” and being an “Anointed One” means a lot in the Old Testament.

There are two figures in the Old Testament who are anointed: the first was Aaron and his sons as the High Priest (Exodus 28:41, 29:7, 30:30, 40:12-15, Leviticus 8:12); by anointing their heads with oil, Moses sets them apart as holy for God's service.

Later Samuel will first anoint Saul and then later David as kings over Israel (1 Samuel 10:1, 16:12-13). “Anointed” people in the Old Testament are therefore priests or kings.

David and the prophets looked forward to the coming of God's Anointed King, “the Messiah.” He would be a descendant of David, ruling with justice and righteousness, restoring the fortunes of Israel, and given an everlasting Kingdom (2 Samuel 7:12-13, 16, Psalms 2:1-12, 110:1-7, Amos 9:11-15, Hosea 3:4-5, Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:1-10, Micah 5:2, Jeremiah 23:5-6, Ezekiel 34:23-24, 37:24-25, Daniel 2:44-45, 7:13-14, 27, 9:24-27).

Two thousand years ago Israelites fervently awaited the coming of this King. The Roman Empire was the fourth empire during which Daniel saw His coming (Daniel 2, 7). Suffering under Roman oppression, the Israelites expected the Messiah to become a king on David's throne in Jerusalem, defeating the Roman power in war, restoring Israel's empire, prestige, and prominence, all centered in Jerusalem. Thus, when first century Israelites spoke of the Messiah, or Christ, they spoke of the coming King who would defeat YHWH's enemies and bring peace and prosperity.

Jesus of Nazareth proved to be the Messiah, but not the Messiah Israel wanted. He was born a descendant of David but to a peasant girl from the backwoods of Galilee (Matthew 1:18-25); He was raised a carpenter's son without any formal education. When many wanted to make Him their king, He fled (John 6:15); He never led an army, never declared war on the Romans but instead expected people to pay relevant taxes (Matthew 22:15-22), He did not sit on a throne in Jerusalem; He did not defeat the Roman Empire militarily; the physical kingdom and territories of David were not restored to Israelite control.

Such is why so many in Israel rejected Him; since He was not the Messiah they wanted, they referred to Him as King only to mock Him (Mark 15:2, 9, 12, 18, 26, 32).

Jesus would be arrested and then executed on a Roman cross publicly as an insurrectionist (Matthew 26:47-27:50). He was not the first so-called messiah to suffer that fate, and He would not be the last.

But Jesus' death was not the end nor an accident but the fulfillment of God's purposes so as to obtain victory over sin (Romans 8:1-4, Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9). On the third day Jesus rose again, gaining victory over death, the Evil One, and all nationalities and powers, never to die again (John 16:33, Colossians 2:13-15, Revelation 1:18).

Forty days later Jesus ascended to Heaven, there obtaining the Kingdom over which He can rule eternally since He was raised to never die again (Daniel 7:13-14, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 7:56), the Kingdom of which He had spoken and taught throughout His life and for which He had prepared twelve of His followers, the Apostles (Matthew 4:17, 23, 10:1-42, 12:22-28, 16:21-23, Mark 4:33-34).

Jesus was not only the King of the Jews, but King of all, and soon God made clear that in Jesus both Jew and non-Jew, the people of all the nations, called Gentiles, could be brought together into one Kingdom (Acts 10:1-11:18, Ephesians 2:1-21). Such is how God, through Jesus, fulfills all the promises He made, not only in Israel, but to Abraham and all the Patriarchs.

Jesus was not just King and Messiah but also Lord, the same claim Caesar made over the Roman Empire (Acts 2:36, 17:7). To say Jesus is Lord is to say Caesar is not; for this Christians would be persecuted by Romans for hundreds of years.

Despite this danger early Christians around the Mediterranean world proclaimed that Jesus was King and Lord of all, that all should serve Him, since all will be judged by Him (Acts 17:30-31).

Jesus as God's King would not rule over one nation-state; He would rule over all of them. In Christ God would not just overcome the Roman Empire but defeated the evil powers behind every empire, allowing everyone everywhere to receive the blessings of serving King Jesus.

Jesus is the Son of God and Son of Man; both are Messianic promises. As prophet, Jesus declares His own rule in God. As priest in the order of Melchizedek, He is not just priest but also king (Psalm 110:1-7, Hebrews 7:1-9:27).

Jesus' victory and kingship are primary themes in Revelation: He is the one like a son of man clothed as the Ancient of Days, ruling over heaven now and who will overthrow both the Roman power and the spiritual forces of evil behind it (Revelation 1:12-18, 4:1-22:6).

To the very end Jesus is the Root and Descendant of David, the Messiah (Revelation 22:16). Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16);

let us honor and serve Him as such!

"The Kingdom of God"

By Joe R. Price

God's anointed king ruling over an insurmountable kingdom was predicted in the Old Testament: Psalms 2:6-7; 110:1-3; 132:11; Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14. An angel announced to Mary that the child to whom she would give birth would be the king of that kingdom (Lk. 1:30-33). Jesus is King today (Acts 2:33-36).

And yet, there are many who do not believe the kingdom of Christ was established during the days of the New Testament, or that it exists today. They look for a kingdom that is yet to come. Are they correct? "What does the Scripture say?" (Rom. 4:3; Gal. 4:30)

Kingdom Facts

- o Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom, Matthew 4:23 (Lk. 9:11); 13:10-11; 18:29
- o Jesus announced the approach of the kingdom, Matthew 4:17; 12:28.
- o Jesus identified the kingdom as His church, Matthew 16:16-19.
- o Jesus identified the nature of the kingdom as spiritual (Jno. 18:36; Lk. 17:20-21), superior (Dan. 2:44) and eternal (Lk. 1:33).
- o Jesus prophesied the establishment of the kingdom in his listeners' lifetime, Luke 12:32; Mark 9:1 (Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:6-8; 2:1-4, 47).
- o The apostles proclaimed the present existence of the kingdom, Acts 20:25; Colossians 1:13; Revelation 1:9 (1 Ths. 2:11).
- o The kingdom is composed of those who have received remission of sins, Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9-10.
- o Salvation depends upon entering the kingdom, Luke 16:16; John 3:3-5.
- o Our daily goal must be to put the kingdom of God first in our lives, Matthew 6:33; Luke 9:62.

The kingdom of Christ exists today. The kingdom of Christ is the church of Christ. It is mighty and its glory is secure. We must live in Christ's kingdom now in order to enter the eternal kingdom (heaven) later (2 Pet. 1:10-11). We urge you to obey the gospel call and enter the kingdom of God (Acts 2:37-41, 47; Col. 1:13).

News and Notes:

Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Nathan Cox, Sandra Oliver, Chad Harris, Eli Johnson, Burt Ward, Jamie Jones, Fred Johnson, Mary Ann Holley, Larsen Plyler, Sam Kennemur, Mackenzie Johnson Hughes Nellie Cottrell, Sherry Fuqua Doles, and the Sheffield Family.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: To Be Announced
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "When Prayers Are Ineffective"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Workbook: Jerry Kennemur
Author: — —
Starting Page & Question: — —

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Russell Briggs
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Adam Harris
Scripture Reading: Mark 14:22-25
Song Leader: Paul Busby
Lord's Supper: Fred Johnson
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "What The Lord's Supper Teaches Us"
Closing Prayer: Paul Johnson

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

November 29, 2023

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Johnson
Workbook: Preparing To Teach Our Neighbors
Author: Max Tice
Starting Page & Question: Page #58, Question #4
Invitation: Russell Briggs
Song Leader: Paul Busby
Closing Prayer: Danny Sheffield

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Meeks Street Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgiXJxZC1oraOugO9qIfBtw?view_as=subscriber

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For sermon videos, articles, and announcements.

“When Prayers Are Ineffective”

Lesson Text: **Luke 18:9-13.**

I. When We Don't Want To Listen To God.

- **Proverbs 28:9; I John 3:20-22.**
- **Not Listening To God Leads To Disobedience!**
- **James 1:21-25.**

II. When We Continue To Walk In Sin.

- **Persistent Sin- 1 Peter 4:3; Colossians 3:6-7.**
- **Romans 6:1-2.**
- **Psalm 66:18; John 9:30-31.**
- **1 John 1:7-9.**

III. When We Expect God To Do Everything For Us.

- **Matthew 6:11; 7:7-8.**
- **Proverbs 21:25.**

IV. When We Pray With An Arrogant Heart.

- **Luke 18:11-12.**
- **James 4:6.**

V. When We Doubt God Will Ever Help Us.

- **James 1:5-7.**
- **Confident Prayers- James 5:16-18.**

VI. When We Ask For Things With Wrong Motives.

- **James 4:1-3.**
- **Acts 23:12-14; 1 John 5:14.**

“What The Lord’s Supper Teaches Us”

Lesson Text: **Mark 14:22-25.**

I. It Teaches Us The Awfulness Of Sin.

- God Taught The Jews To Sacrifice For Sin- **Leviticus 22:18-24; Hebrews 9:6-7.**
- Jesus Gave His Life For Our Redemption- **Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 9:22.**
- You Are Bought With A Price- **1 Corinthians 6:20; 1 Peter 1:18-19.**
- **Hebrews 9:11-15** We Should Never Think Of Our Sin As Trivial Or Unimportant!

II. It Teaches Us To Proclaim The Lord’s Death To Others.

- The Facts Of The Gospel- **1 Corinthians 15:1-4.**
- Phillip Preached It- **Acts 8:30-38.**
- Paul Preached It- **1 Corinthians 2:2; Acts 26:19-23.**
- All Christians Proclaim It As They Partake It- **1 Corinthians 11:23-26.**

III. It Teaches Us To Value Our Life In Christ’s Kingdom.

- The Kingdom Was Established On Pentecost- **Acts 2; Matthew 16:18-19.**
- We Are In The Kingdom Now! **Colossians 1:12-13; Revelation 1:9.**
- The Lord’s Supper Is Our Time To Be With Christ- **Mark 14:25.**
- It Is A Time Of Fellowship With Christ- **1 Corinthians 10:16.**

IV. It Teaches Us To Ever Be Thankful For Jesus’ Sacrifice.

- How Do We Show Thankfulness For Jesus’ Death?
- The Worth We Give To His Sacrifice Shows Thankfulness- **1 Cor. 11:27-29.**
- We Are Blessed To Start Out Each Week Being Thankful To Jesus! **Acts 20:7.**
- **1 Corinthians 15:57.**