

Jesus is the King of Kings

John 18:28-40

Dustin Forthun

Introduction

1. Every kingdom requires a Ruler.
 - a. Christ is the Ruler of His Kingdom (Colossians 2:8-12).
 - b. Christ has all authority (Matthew 28:18-20), and He is the Judge of mankind (John 12:48).
2. Every kingdom requires a Realm.
 - a. The territory of Christ's Kingdom is not of this world. The boundary lines are not visible, but they are clearly defined (see 1 John 2:15-17).
 - b. We are on a continual quest to spread the borders of this spiritual kingdom.
3. Every kingdom requires Rules.
 - a. Such exists to maintain order and stability.
 - b. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Romans 13:1). The keeping of law promotes self-discipline which is essential to the saving of our souls (Acts 24:25; Galatians 5:23; 2 Peter 1:6).
4. Every kingdom requires Subjects.
 - a. How can there be a leader where there are no followers?
 - b. Christians are the subjects in Christ's Kingdom. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch (Acts 11:26). This name (Christian) is the worthy name by which we are called (James 2:7). A Christian is a follower of Christ (see John 10:1-5).

Discussion:

I. The Superiority of Christ.

- A. Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Timothy 6:15). The Book of Hebrews (with "better" as its one-word theme) exalts the superiority of Christ.
 1. Christ is a superior Revealer (Hebrews 1:1-2:18).
 - a. God speaks through Jesus today (Hebrews 1:1).
 - b. Jesus is superior to the angels, and He is given a more excellent name than they (Hebrews 1:4).
 2. Christ is a superior Mediator (Hebrews 3).
 - a. Moses was a servant in his house (Hebrews 3:5).
 - b. In contrast, Jesus is a Son over His house (Hebrews 3:6).
 3. Christ is a superior Rest Provider (Hebrews 4:1-13). In Hebrews 4:7-9, "Jesus" has reference to "Joshua," Israel's rest provider.
 4. Christ is of a superior Order (Hebrews 4:14-7:17).
 - a. Jesus is a High Priest after the order of Melchisedec.
 - b. Like Melchisedec, Christ is a priest and a king.
 5. Christ is the author of the superior Covenant (Hebrews 7:22-8:13).
 6. Christ is the builder of the superior Tabernacle (Hebrews 9:1-10:18).
 - a. "But Christ being come a high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building" (Hebrews 9:11).
 - b. The Old Testament tabernacle is an amazing type of the Lord's church.
 7. Christ offers the superior Way—the way of faith (Hebrews 10:19-13:25).
- B. Jesus is Prophet, Priest, and King.

1. Prophet
 - a. A prophet is a spokesperson (Exodus 4:15, 16; 7:1), and Jesus was/is God's Spokesman (Matthew 17:5; Acts 3:22, 23; Hebrews 1:1, 2).
 - b. Accuracy was the hallmark of any legitimate prophet (Deuteronomy 18:22), and Jesus spoke the truth (John 17:17; Matthew 16:21; Luke 22:34; John 1:17).
2. Priest
 - a. The priests officiated between God and man, and Jesus fill that important role for all Christians (Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 Timothy 2:5).
 - b. The priests offered sacrifices for the atonement of the people (Leviticus 16:32), and Jesus' ultimate sacrifice makes possible for all (combine the thoughts of Hebrews 8:3 and 10:5; 1 Peter 2:22-24).
3. King
 - a. Consider the prophesy (2 Samuel 7:12-16; Isaiah 2:2; 9:7; Daniel 2:44).
 - b. Consider the reality (Matthew 4:7; 16:18; Acts 2:29-36; Colossian 1:13).

II. The Superiority of His Kingdom.

- A. Christ's Kingdom is not of this world.
 1. Its origin is not worldly.
 - a. This Kingdom was born in the mind of God and exists in the hearts of men (Luke 17:21).
 - b. "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption" (1 Corinthians 15:50).
 2. Its order is not worldly.
 - a. Earthly kingdoms often follow a hierarchal structure (from presidents down to the poor), but the Lord's Kingdom follows no such order. The greatest will have to be the least (Matthew 19:30; 23:11).
 - b. Prominence within this spiritual kingdom is measured differently (Matthew 11:11).
 3. Its wealth is not worldly.
 - a. It's a Kingdom of contentment (1 Timothy 6:8; Hebrews 13:5).
 - b. It promises the necessities of life, and not much more (Matthew 6:33).
 4. Its weapons are not worldly.
 - a. Ephesians 6:10-17
 - b. Its weapons are not worldly because its enemies are not worldly (Ephesians 6:12; 1 Peter 5:8).
- B. Christ could not be a physical king.
 1. Christ is of the Wrong Ancestry to be a physical king.
 - a. Jeremiah predicted that no descendant of Coniah (Jechoniah, Jechonias) would reign on the throne in Israel (Jeremiah 22:30).
 - b. Jesus is a descendant of Jechoniah (Matthew 1:11).
 - c. Therefore, it is impossible for Jesus to server as a physical king.
 2. A physical kingdom is the Wrong Aim of the Godhead.
 - a. An ignored fact of the premillennialists is that the Jews wanted to make Jesus a king (see John 6:15). Premillennialists insist (with no proof) that the church is an afterthought because the Jews rejected Jesus as king. The truth is that the Jews wanted Jesus to be their physical king, but such physical thrust was not the aim of the Messiah.
 - b. Jesus insisted that His Kingdom was not of this world (John 12:36).

III. The Superiority of the Citizenry.

- A. Christ's citizenry is superior because they follow the hard sayings of Jesus.
 1. Jesus taught that sincerity is not a substitute for submission (Matthew 7:21-23).

2. Jesus taught that baptism is an essential element of belief (Mark 16:16).
 3. Jesus taught that acceptable worship must be the aim of man (John 4:24).
- B. Christ's citizenry is superior because of the significance of being in Christ.
1. All spiritual blessings are in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).
 2. Redemption is in Christ (Ephesians 1:7).
 3. An inheritance awaits those who are in Christ (Ephesians 1:11).
 4. Salvation is in Christ (2 Timothy 2:10).

Conclusion:

1. Every knee should bow before King Jesus (Philippians 2:10) because one day every knee shall bow before Him (Romans 14:11).
2. Make your decision to submit to Jesus before it's too late.