**Christ The King**

***16****For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.****17****For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,”****18****we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.****19****And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,****20****knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.****21****For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:16-21, ESV)*

 Jesus Christ is truly our King, based on the foundations of both the Scriptures and the experiences of the Apostles. Greetings to you in Christ, dear brothers and sisters, as we talk today about the Lord Jesus’ position as (our) King. Generally, the topic of Christ’s identity is spoken of often, however there is one aspect about which we do not often focus, and that is His Kingship. Today’s message is about that position, which has a deep meaning for our personal and corporate lives as Christ-followers and as a church body. May the Lord give us the awareness of His Kingship, so that we can live according to that truth. Again, Jesus Christ is truly our King, based on the foundations of both the Scriptures and the experiences of the Apostles. Let’s talk, then, about our Savior who is King for a bit…

 Jesus’ identity is certain – and that ought to profoundly affect our lives. The Apostle Peter seemed to be giving his last words in his second letter to the church. The Lord Jesus had already revealed to him that he would soon be leaving his body, departing, in other words, to the next and eternal life. Peter affirms that both his and his fellow Apostles’ teachings were founded personal, verifiable experiences. They had been eyewitnesses to God’s glory which appeared in Jesus, but not coming down from heaven, but rather coming directly from Him. When the Father had said that “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am pleased,” what the Apostles had seen then firsthand had been established and confirmed. Specifically, the Father had confirmed that Jesus of Nazareth was the Glorious Savior King.

The prophets of the Old Testament as well, who spoke led by the Holy Spirit had been expecting that same King for centuries – something that we find in the pages of the Hebrew Scriptures. For the audience, it was going to be important to study the Scriptures[[1]](#footnote-1) to avoid following wrong teachings as well as to give up their wrong convictions. There was not one prophet or apostle that had presented cleverly invented words as the Word of God. And this Word was that Christ was God’s Beloved and Pleasing Son who had Glory within Him. This was important to establish because in those days, as it is very much so today, many did not stress the Second Coming of Christ, of which the Apostles saw a small sample in their Transfiguration experience on the mountain with Jesus. If we had gone on and read to the end of 2 Peter, we would have seen that false teachers had arisen that did not hold to the hope of Jesus’ return or Kingly arrival to execute the Final Judgment. This they did purposely, so that their unbridled, immoral, and unholy lifestyle could continue as it did. One of the purposes of 2 Peter was in fact to rebuke them by confirming Jesus’ identity as The King.

 Pastor Warren Wiersbe talks about a frontier town where a horse bolted and ran away with a wagon carrying a little boy. Seeing the child in danger, a young man risked his life to catch the horse and stop the wagon. The child who was saved grew up to become a lawless man, and one day he stood before a judge to be sentenced for a serious crime. The prisoner recognized the judge as the man who, years before had saved his life; so, he pled for mercy on the basis of that experience. But the words from the bench silenced his plea: "Young man, then I was your savior; today I am your judge, and I must sentence you to be hanged." One day Jesus Christ will say to rebellious sinners, "During that long day of grace, I was the Savior, and I would have forgiven you. But today I am your Judge. Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire!"

 If Jesus Christ is our King and not just our Shepherd, Savior, and First Love, then we ought to live our lives as a King’s obedient children. After all, our King served us humbly, showing by example how we should minister. He portrayed the right image of what holiness was supposed to look like. He showed His Divine Love in sacrifice, and defeated death itself and showed is Omnipotence, His All-Powerful nature in His Resurrection. Our Lord Jesus was both the Savior of Glory who would one day come according to the visions of the prophets of the Old Testament and the Glorious King on the mountain, as well as the future arriving Judge who will judge the believer and the unbeliever.

 Therefore, if Jesus is the King, then our whole life needs to proceed according to that reality. Our orders are to come from His Word, then; our sense of belonging is to be rooted in His Kingdom; our lives are to be an expression of our King’s love to this world (and all its inhabitants). So, let us examine our convictions again: and let us offer our lives to our King, Jesus Christ once more.

 Jesus’ identity is certain – and that ought to profoundly affect our lives. Jesus Christ is truly our King, based on the foundations of both the Scriptures and the experiences of the Apostles. The Lord bless you all. Amen.

1. Which were essentially the Old Testament and the Letters of Paul, mostly at the time. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)