

Come and See the King of Kings – Is 11:1-16

Last week – began our Christmas series Come and See based on **Jn 1:45-46**

Where Philip says to Nathanael – *We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph . . . Come and see.*

After covering some background re Messianic prophecy (**insert in bulletin**)

Looked at the Messiah, the Christ, as promised in Is 9

Found that he’s . . .

Wonderful Counselor; Mighty God; Everlasting Father; Prince of Peace

Saw from the Scriptures how Jesus *is* the One; That he fulfills the prophecy

Most exciting – about 10 of you saw him for the very first time, or in a new light

At end of the service, prayed to embrace him as *your* Savior

Praise God for that – prayed for you

This week – turn our attention to another Messianic prophecy, where the Christ/Messiah is described as a *King*

Though “King” is never used in this passage, it’s very clear one is being described, just from the mention of his attributes and his lineage

The pertinent question is – Do you know him?

Jesus *is* King; The question is – Is he *your* King?

Does *he* reign in your life? Or do *you*?

If *he* does, I hope to bolster your glad surrender to his rule in your life

And encourage you as you follow him and live his way

If not, if he doesn’t reign in your life

My prayer is that you will see him, know him, and give him full reign in your life as the King of Kings this morning

Turn to Is 11 – work through it as we go; First thing we find in v1 is a King who . . .

He intervenes unexpectedly (v1)

Read v1 – Despite the fact that God would *cut down* his enemies, including those in Israel who did not follow him (Is 10)

He reaffirms promise made to David, that someone fr lineage would be King (2 Sam 7)

But the *way* he would do it was totally unexpected

There shall come forth a shoot . . . and a branch – image of tender new twig like what you see in the Spring

The ones that little boys twist off just because they can; Something fragile, like a baby

From the stump [and roots] of Jesse – not fr the healthy, ruling family of David’s father

But from the nearly extinct line of those who remained faithful . . .

And if that weren’t unexpected enough, this coming one *would bear fruit* – he would accomplish his purpose

Matthew is explicit that this tender shoot from the stump of Jesse is Jesus Christ

That’s why he starts his gospel with *the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David* (Mt 1:1), and cites *Jesse* as David’s father v6

He wanted to make it clear that Jesus *is* the King of Kings from the lineage of David

But who would’ve thought he would intervene as a *baby*, born in an animal shelter, amidst unrest and oppression in the 1st century?!

That’s unexpected – that’s Jesus

And he continues to intervene that way in our *lives*

Like unexpectedly connecting you with a new friend or co-worker who keeps inviting you to church

Or by unexpectedly saving a family member who won’t stop talking to you about him

Or unexpectedly moving someone into neighborhood who invites you to a Bible study

Or by unexpectedly getting your attention through . . .

The pain of sickness; The death of a loved one; Broken marriage; Financial hardship

When Jesus intervenes in your life, you can expect the unexpected

Is he doing that these days? Maybe even as I speak?

Don’t be surprised if he is – that’s how he works

He may want to refine you, encourage you, convict you, or save you

As unexpected as it might be, don’t miss him – because . . .

He leads with wisdom and power (v2)

Read v2-3a

The very presence of the Spirit of the Lord (the HS) would be on him

And he would lead with all the divine attributes that come w/ God’s Spirit

He’d be able to see to the heart of issues

Determine the right course of action, and see it through

Grasp truth and apply it to life

With all the delight that comes with pleasing the Lord and honoring him (3a)

Do you realize that having committed yourself to King Jesus, you have the *same* Spirit within *you*?

Resulting in greater insight; Increased sensitivity to needs of others

Clearer thinking; Better decisions; Power for living; Love for others

And an unquenchable desire to worship the one in whom you *delight*

The King of Kings leads with wisdom and power through the presence of God’s Spirit within you; The question is – Are you following?

That’s important because he also . . .

He judges with righteousness and authority (v3-5)

Read v3b-5 – This is a good news, bad news sort of thing

Good news because he looks on the heart, judging our motives by what he *knows*

Not our outward appearances by what he sees or hears (3b)

If you’re humble/soft of heart, and your motives are pure – that’s good news

But if your heart is hard and rebellious to the things of God, it’s bad news

4b – *he shall strike the earth with the rod [power] of his mouth, and with the breath . . .*

God is patient, wanting all to come to him – yes

But there *will* come a time when his patience is up, and he *will* bring judgment on those who reject him

Even now, his Word has the power to condemn or convict; to punish or save

There will come a day when Jesus returns to judge the living and the dead

And with the force of his word alone, he will pronounce a final death sentence on the wicked – those with hard, sinful, rebellious hearts

That’s authority; That’s bad news if you have a hard heart

Because though you may be able to fool your *neighbor* with outward appearances, there’s no fooling *God* with your *heart*

Don't miss his sense of urgency here in v5

The idea of the *belt* is that the King of Kings is *ready* to judge

The good news is that his judgments are *righteous/fair/just*

And he will be *faithful* to his promises of goodness and salvation

The bad news is that his judgments are *righteous/fair/just*

And he will be *faithful* to his promises of wrath and punishment

Do you know him?

The King who judges with righteousness and authority?

Have you surrendered to him? Are you ready to do that today?

I hope so, because the consequences of your decision are pretty clear

It's either death and punishment, or life and peace, because . . .

He reigns in perfect peace (v6-10)

Read v6-9 – If that's not a picture of perfect peace, I don't know what is

Isaiah fast forwards here to say that the King's coming will result in peace on earth and goodwill toward men

That there will come a day when King of Kings will reign over world in perfect peace

A day when there's no more enmity among his creation; No more death; No more fear

Because *the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord* (9)

Full of knowing the Lord; Full of those who know him personally and intimately

Read v10 – Isaiah refers back to the day of Christ's initial coming

Calls the coming King the *root of Jesse*; Which begs the question –

How can this King be both the *root of Jesse* (i.e. preceding him)?

And the *shoot from Jesse* (i.e. his offspring)?

The only answer is that he's God in the flesh

As man he came *from* Jesse; As God, Jesse came from *him*

No wonder his place of rule and reign (*resting place*) *shall be glorious* (10b)

And though this reign of perfect peace in the *world* is yet to come . . .

It's already happening in the hearts/lives of those who know him as King

Your heart *is* his glorious resting place, if you *know* him

If you've given your life to him

And with his presence, comes his peace

That's why Isaiah says in ch26, v3 – *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you*

Do you know the King of Kings who reigns in perfect peace?

If not, you can, because . . .

He offers a way to be saved (v11-16)

Read v11 . . . *In that day* – at the time/events of Christ's coming – his 1st and 2nd coming

Isaiah doesn't distinguish here, as was often the case for prophets

As God showed them the future, most of the time it looked like one event because it was so far away

Much as we look at the stars, and think they're all the same distance from us because we're so far away

Second time – the first time was the Exodus from Egypt

Remnant – the few that follow him, out of all those who could

➤ The Lord will gather his people to himself – the first of 4 promises he'll accomplish through the coming King

Places in v11 were representative of every direction on compass

But this gathering is not just limited to the ANE, or the Jews

Even here in the OT, we see that it's a world-wide phenomenon (read v12)

Nations – includes all peoples

From the four corners of the earth – everyone, everywhere

Isaiah said the coming of the King himself will be the *signal* (10, 12) for this great in-gathering

The gathering has already started, because the King has already come

It will be completed when he returns

Promise #1 – God is gathering people to himself

The question is – Are you a part it?

➤ Promise #2 and 3 – He will knit us together, and give us victory over opposition

In v13-14 he uses 2 *local* examples to illustrate these *world-wide* promises

13 – Example of Ephraim and Judah to say that there will be no more jealousy or hostility among God's people

14 – Example of Israel's victory over her enemies, to illustrate our victory over our enemies – the powers of darkness and those who oppose the truth of God

But it's not a military we're promised, it's a moral one, a spiritual one . . .

As we stand and sometimes die for what's right

God promises to knit us together, and give us victory over opposition

➤ And he does all this by offering a way to be saved (promise #4)

Read 15-16 – Isaiah uses example of the Exodus in the past, and the barriers to/from Assyria in the future, to say that –

Once again, God will miraculously make a way for you and me to be saved

A way that Jesus made explicit in **Jn 14:6** where he says – *I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

Jesus *is* the highway of salvation in v16

He *is* the promised King through whom God offers a way to be saved

Do you know him? The King who offered *himself* (his life/death) as the way to be saved?

Video I want you to see

3 ½ minutes of a message by the late S.M. Lockridge – pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in San Diego from 1953-93

Captures Jesus as the King of Kings as good as any

That King of Kings made a way for you to be saved

If you want to know him as your personal Savior, **pray** with me right now

You can use my words to express your heart, or your own

Raise your hand and look at me

Pray for them

If you prayed with me – tell someone this week; tell us next week on the Register

If you'd like to talk or pray with someone further, one of our elders and their wife will be down front afterwards

