

Christ the King
Matthew 20:29-21:17

General Opening

At the beginning of the sermon, we did a word association for "King." Did your perception of what a king is change after looking at the life of Jesus in this passage? How so?

Point 1: A Compassionate King

The sermon mentions that Jesus was moved to tears by the spiritual state of Jerusalem. How does it change your prayer life or your view of God to know that your King is "moved by your infirmities" rather than being a distant, cold ruler?

Jesus stopped for Bartimaeus even when he was on a "royal" mission. Who are the "marginalized" in your daily life that a compassionate King might be calling you to notice?

Point 2: A Contradictory King

Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey rather than a warhorse. Why do you think God often chooses to display His power through humility and weakness rather than through worldly displays of force?

Reflection: In what ways does the Gospel "contradict" the way the world tells you to find success or approval? How can we embrace the "vulnerability" mentioned in the illustration of The King's Speech in our own walk with Christ?

Point 3: A Confrontational King

When Jesus entered the Temple, he "cleaned house." If Jesus were to walk into the "temple" of your life today (your heart, your priorities, your schedule), what is one thing He might "overturn" or confront?

The sermon argues that Jesus is not a "consultant" but a Sovereign. What is the practical difference between treating Jesus as a helpful advisor versus treating Him as an absolute King?

Point 4: A Coming King

Read Revelation 19:11-16. How does the imagery of the "Coming King" on a white horse balance out the imagery of the "Humble King" on a donkey? Why do we need to believe in both?

How should the reality of His return change the way we live our lives this week?

Personal Application

Theory vs. Fact: The final challenge of the sermon was whether Jesus is your King "in theory or in fact." What is one area of your life where you have been keeping the "keys" to the kingdom, and how can you hand them over to Him this week?