



Lion - The True King

Key idea:

Jesus, the Lion, is King over all ruling everything for the glory of God and the good of God's people.

Key text:

Isaiah 9:6–7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Revelation 5:5

Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

Hebrews 2:6–9

But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁷ You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. ⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Ephesians 1:19–22

That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

Key points:

1. The Lion was a symbol of royal power and authority and was used to speak of the coming Messiah-King.
2. Humans were created to rule over creation to the glory of God.
3. Jesus came to fulfill the Old Testament roles of Prophet, Priest, and King.
4. As King, Jesus fulfills humanity's call to rule over creation, and He will rule over the New Creation.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Why is it necessary for the Redeemer to be the King?
3. The King is supposed to establish and uphold righteousness and justice. Why is this important for a king (or any leader)? How characteristic are these in our age?
4. Humans were created to rule over the creation to God's glory. How well have we done this? Why?
5. What is the relationship between Jesus' role as the Man, the Second Adam, and His role as the Lion, the King?
6. What is the relationship between God's purposes in creation and redemption? Are they the same or different?
7. What practical effect should it have for us to understand that as the King Jesus is ruling over all things for God's glory and the good of His people?
8. Can you think of any area where your faith in Jesus' Kingship is shaken at present? Talk with God about this in prayer, asking Him to help you trust Him.
9. Can you think of someone with whom you can share what you have learned this week? Pray for them and ask God to open a door for you to share His Word.

Our Advent Series: Images of Christ

Preview of next week: Ox - The True Servant (Mark 10:45)