

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

I. Intro - Aslan the Lion

- A. CS Lewis *Chronicles of Narnia* - Christ figure
- B. We easily think of lions as regal, powerful
- C. What does this image teach us about Christ's Person and work?
- D. Is it related to the image of Christ as the Man?

II. Lion - The True King

- A. The One coming to save would be King
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. Isaiah 9:6–7
 - 1. Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah - a King
 - 2. Note the words of rule - government, Prince, reign, throne, kingdom
 - 3. This King will sit on David's throne - the throne of the Lord (2 Chronicles 29:23)
 - 4. As King, He will rule to establish justice and righteousness
 - 5. This age is full of brokenness and injustice, but the King will repair, restore and uphold righteousness.

B. The King - The Lion of the Tribe of Judah

You are a lion's cub, O Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a **lion** he crouches and lies down, like a **lioness** — who dares to rouse him? ¹⁰ **The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.** Gen 49:9–10

- 1. Jacob prophesies over his sons - Judah like a lion
- 2. Judah will have the scepter, rulers staff - will rule over all nations
- 3. Ruler over God's kingdom will come from Judah
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." Revelation 5:5
 - 1. Jesus is the Lion of Judah, Root of David
 - 2. Joins the two titles of the Ruling Messiah
 - 3. The Lion, the King of the beasts, is the symbol of the Ruler over God's Kingdom.

III. Why Jesus Must Be the King

- A. Catechism Q27 - How does Jesus fulfill the roles of Prophet, Priest, and King?
As Prophet, Jesus speaks the Word of God to us. As Priest, He sacrifices Himself for our sins and intercedes for us before God's throne. **As King, He rules over us and all of creation to accomplish the will of God.**
 - 1. Jesus fulfilled the roles of Prophet, Priest, and King
 - 2. As King, the Messiah would rule over God's People and all creation to accomplish the will of God

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has **spoken** to us by his Son... ³ After he had **provided purification for sins**, he **sat down at the right hand of the Majesty** in heaven. Hebrews 1:1–3

1. Jesus fulfilled the roles of Prophet, Priest, and King
2. He speaks the Word of God to us, purifies us from sin and intercedes, and rules over us and all creation.

B. As King, Jesus fulfills humanity's call to rule over creation

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Genesis 1:28

1. Humanity was called to rule over all creation
2. This is an essential part of the image of God in us
3. Unfortunately, in the fall humanity and creation began an adversarial relationship - the curse

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." Genesis 3:17–19

- a. Our fall brought about the curse - and he struggle with creation

- b. Because of sin, we were no longer able to rule creation to the glory of God
- c. This is why we alternate between fearing and trying to dominate creation

4. The call to rule continued after the Fall

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁵ You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, ⁸ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. Psalm 8:3–8

- a. Humanity is still called to rule over God's works
- b. Clearly reminding us of Genesis 1:28
- c. Even after the Fall, humans are called to rule over creation to the glory of God

C. Jesus the King ruling over God's creation

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. Hebrews 2:6–9

1. Quoting Psalm 8 - and shows humans have failed
2. Because of the curse, we can not fulfill our role to be kings and queens over God's creation.
3. But Jesus, the 2nd Adam, has come and He is ruling over creation to God's glory!
4. This too is part of Jesus' call as the New Adam - and He excels!
5. This rulership includes the new creation - the new heavens and the new earth!
It is not to angels that he has subjected **the world to come**, about which we are speaking. Hebrews 2:5
 - a. Ultimately this is about ruling over the new creation
 - b. Jesus has entered the new age and begun His rule over the present and new creation.
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, Ephesians 1:19–22
 1. Jesus has conquered death, is seated at God's right hand, and is ruling all things for God's glory.
 2. He is exalted over everything in this age and in the age to come!
6. Jesus, the Lion, is King over all ruling everything for the glory of God and the good of God's people.

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do I see that Jesus had to be the King over all?
 1. This was God's call for humanity so Jesus had to be the King over God's creation.
 2. As King, Jesus rules all creation to the glory of God.
 3. Do I understand that God's plan for creation is still on track?
 4. Do I see that God's purposes in redemption are the fulfillment of His purposes in creation?
 5. This is the hope of glory - all restored by our King!
- B. Do I see that Jesus is King over all?
 1. Do I believe that Jesus is Sovereign over every square inch of creation?
 2. This means Jesus is ruling my circumstances as well
 3. Do I trust that Jesus is ruling over my life for God's glory and my ultimate good?
 4. Are there any circumstances at present that shake my faith in Jesus' Lordship over all?
 - a. Finances or work
 - b. Health
 - c. Relationship issues
 - d. World events
 5. Are there any circumstances at present that shake my faith in Jesus' Lordship over all?

C. The Table of the King

1. This is the Table of the King
2. He invites us to sit and dine with Him as his guest
3. This is His pledge to provide and care for us
4. Come and feast at the Table of the King!

Lion - The True King

2 Samuel 2:1-5:5 (2 Samuel 5:1-5)

December 9, 2018

Prayer

1 Timothy 6:15-16

Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, Jesus; Christology; kingdom of God; Lordship

May You be blessed by God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see, and to Whom be honor and might forever. Amen. 1 Timothy 6:15–16

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. Isaiah 9:6–7