

GAME OF THRONES

THE REIGN OF DAVID

A Worshipping Kingdom

Key idea:

The powerful, holy Presence of God calls forth perpetual praise, proclamation, and prayer from His people.

Key text:

1 Chronicles 16:8-36

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. ⁹ Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. ¹⁰ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. ¹¹ Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

¹² Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced, ¹³ O descendants of Israel his servant, O sons of Jacob, his chosen ones.

¹⁴ He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

¹⁵ He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations, ¹⁶ the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. ¹⁷ He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: ¹⁸ "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit."

¹⁹ When they were but few in number, few indeed, and strangers in it, ²⁰ they wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another. ²¹ He allowed no man to oppress them; for their sake he rebuked kings: ²² "Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm."

²³ Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. ²⁴ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. ²⁵ For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. ²⁶ For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

²⁷ Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy in his dwelling place. ²⁸ Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength, ²⁹ ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

³⁰ Tremble before him, all the earth! The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

³¹ Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!" ³² Let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them!

³³ Then the trees of the forest will sing, they will sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

³⁴ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. ³⁵ Cry out, “Save us, O God our Savior; gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name, that we may glory in your praise.” ³⁶ Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Then all the people said “Amen” and “Praise the LORD.”

Key points:

1. When the Ark of the Covenant, which was the very holy, powerful Presence of God, came to Jerusalem, David commanded that perpetual praise be offered to God.
2. God’s people are called to verbally declare how great God is, and to give thanks for all He has done - especially in saving us through Christ.
3. We give praise to God for His covenant promises and protection, which have kept His people through the ages.
4. God’s people are called to proclaim His glory and praise to others, including those who do not yet know God.
5. God’s people are called to pray for Him to gather from the nations those who do not yet know Him, bringing them into His Church.
6. The proper response to God’s Holy Presence and blessing is true, joyful worship.
7. A worshipper builds a community of praise, proclamation, and prayer as they sing, give, and obey God’s Word.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday’s text and teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. What reasons do I have to give praise to God? How does remembering God’s past faithfulness to keep His promises, and His protection develop a heart overflowing with praise?
3. Can I name specific instances where God has been faithful to keep His promises or to care for me or the ones I love?
4. What is the relationship between praise and proclamation? Is it possible to have a heart full of thanksgiving and praise, and a mouth that does not speak of God or His works to others?

5. As those who have enjoyed God and His Gospel, how should this affect my prayer life? In what ways should it encourage prayer? In what ways should it affect the content of my prayers?
6. Why is singing such an important part of a life of praise and proclamation? Why do we sing when we gather as God's people? Do I sing along with the rest of the church? Why or why not?
7. Why is giving to the work of God part of our worship? Is giving to the work of God a regular part of my life? Why or why not?
8. What is the relationship between worship and obedience? Are my thoughts, desires, words, and actions growing in conformity to God's Word - or to the culture around me?

Preview of next week:

Title: Missionary from China