



The Righteous King

Key idea:

Jesus is the righteous King in His personal character, His rule to judge sin and establish justice, and in bearing our sin and giving righteousness to His people.

Key text:

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Key points:

1. God's people are called to rejoice at the coming of the Messianic King.
2. The Old Testament prophesied that the coming Messiah, the Son of David Who would rule over the nations, would be a righteous King.
3. The Old Testament prophesied that the coming Messianic King would be righteous in three ways:
 - a. He would be righteous in His personal character
 - b. He would rule justly, punishing sin and establishing justice.
 - c. He would bear the sin of His people and give His righteousness to them.
4. The Gospel highlights all three aspects of the righteousness of God - His holiness, His judgment of sin, and His gift of righteousness to those who come to Him by faith in Christ.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. When I hear that Luther said he hated the righteousness of God before he understood the Gospel, what do I think? Is that shocking to me? Why or why not?

3. When I hear that Jesus is a righteous King, what is the first thing that comes to my mind? Which of the three aspects in key point 3 above do I think of first? Were any of them unexpected to me?
4. God's character may be summarized by the three words holiness, love, and integrity (see BRCC catechism question 7). Which of these does our culture readily embrace? Which of these does our culture minimize or deny?
5. Which aspect of God's character (holiness, love, and integrity) do I struggle with the most? Why? How can I grow in my understanding of God's full character?
6. How does minimizing God's righteousness (His holiness) alter the Gospel?
7. How does understanding the gift of righteousness given to us in Christ prompt joy and worship? If I am lacking joy or do not desire to worship, how can I stir up my passion and gratitude for God and His Gospel?
8. What am I doing for my personal devotions and time with the Father during Advent? How can I have my life-rhythm line up with that of Jesus during this Advent season?
9. Who will I call or see to invite to gather with the church to rejoice and worship this week?