

People want a king. Now they won't say it that way. We say we want democracy, until it doesn't go our way. We human beings are longing for heroes, someone to follow, who will give us a cause. You can see it in our movies, in our stories. You never see the heroic central committee for public safety. People want a king! My friends, Jesus is the King! but He is not like other kings...

Worship Jesus, the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

Luke has been building to this moment, Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, though it is not quite what was expected.

For it is still in the setting of His earthly humility that we see His glorious divinity and royalty.

This has been Jesus' revealed purpose for some time. **Luke 9:51-56**

Jesus had “set His face to Jerusalem.”

They knew Jesus is the king, but they misunderstood what kind of king He is.

Jesus is the king who has come to suffer, die, and thereby save His people.

So this is on display visually now when Jesus enters His holy city, Jerusalem.

I. Jesus the King is the glorious Savior.

Luke 19:28-40

We find the account of this moment in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Why? There is no great miracle.

In this moment is a very important theological, Christological message.

Look at vs. 30, 32 What is the explanation? Jesus is a good guesser? He engineered it?

No! What is Luke's point? Jesus knew where the colt was. He knew where the colt had been.

Jesus knows it all, even the little things in life.

This is a very simple fact, that a child can understand. Jesus knows everything!

Now you might be thinking, “I knew that.” But do you know what it means to know that?

Do you know the extent of His knowledge... **Job 38:12-24** He knows it all.

He knows: how big the universe is, and what is the smallest piece of it, and how it all works.

the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a serpent on a rock

He understands why women like to redecorate... and why men like to fish.

and He needs no fish finder to know where every fish is in every lake, river and sea.

and... He knows you! What a Savior!

The woman at the well said, “come see a man who told me everything I ever did.”

He knows your past, everything you ever did! He knows why you did it.

He knows all you're thinking about right now! You can fool yourself. You can't fool Jesus. So quit trying.

He knows all that has yet to happen to you! Oh, what a Savior! but... not only does He know it all...

Look what He tells His disciples to say (vs. 31): “the Lord has need of it.” They don't even ask questions!

and, indeed, this is what they say in vs. 34... and that's the end of it! even though there were “owners”

vs. 35 No one else had ever ridden it... because it was His to ride... and the coats? His coats.

Everything is His: all the earth knows it's master (vs. 40)... It is all His. He's the King.

All your money is His. This is the central point of His Kingdom teaching on the way to Jerusalem.

Your home, it's not yours. It's His. Your family is His. Do you live like this?

Your body is His. So care for it and use it like He wants you to.

Your mind is His. Be careful what you put in it. He's the King.

Your life is His. Are you having trials? They are His. So, look to Him and praise Him.

vs. 36 “spreading their coats on the road” Did they have coats to spare? No, they were poorer than you and I.

They are interested in praising the King of Kings.

vs. 37 praising God, rejoicing “loudly”... for all the miracles. Do you look at your life, “No miracles?”

Maybe you're not looking. Maybe you are looking at the wrong stuff.

There were those who denied the miracles. There were those who hated Him for the miracles.

vs. 38 blessing the King, praising the Messiah, Savior, Christ with the words of **Psalms 118**.

What are they saying about Jesus? He's the one this Psalm prepared us to receive.

But you might say, “they didn't understand what they were saying.” maybe, not all of it...

But (vs. 39) the Pharisees understood enough of it to get hopping mad... and they didn't even believe it!

vs. 40 all creation itself longs to sing His praise... It knows it's master... someday it will sing!

This is what Paul says in Rom. 8:18-25

You have a choice, every day: Will you praise Him? Sometimes it is a sacrifice of praise... will you do it?

His being praised doesn't depend on you... He will be praised. But don't miss out... He is a Glorious Savior!

II. Jesus the King knows us completely.

Luke 19:41-44

This little conversation with Jerusalem is only found in Luke.

It is presented in contrast to vss. 31-40 where the disciples, even creation (the stones) is aware of Him.

The leadership of the nation is not. They do not recognize their King.

These are the religious people, the nice-looking people, the good families, the rich.

These are the people with something to lose.

These are the people you might think you would want in your church.

But though they act like they listen to God... They use the right words. They dress the right way.

In fact, they are not interested in knowing the Lord.

Looking out over the city, the hills around Jerusalem, Jesus closes His journey to Jerusalem with sadness.

This is an illuminating combination of heartfelt compassion and wrathful judgement.

Jesus weeps... *klaio* = full sobbing. He is not at all indifferent.

Jesus here is like a parent watching a child make terribly foolish decisions.

It is a picture of how Jesus sees us when we are trying to ignore Him and go our own way.

And Jesus the King knows. He knows us. He knows our way. **Psalm 139:1-12**

He knows all other possibilities. He knows what would have happened if we had gone another way.

Jesus here laments: Lit. "if only you knew... the things which make for peace" (implied = but you don't)

You see, these people, they could not see; they did not see who Jesus is, that He's the King.

Friends, there is an intimate relationship between knowing and seeing.

The more you see something the better you know it... the better you know something, the more you see.

Boundary Waters

It works in the opposite direction as well... the less you know Jesus, the less you see of Him.

John 9:39-41 They cannot see the truth of what Jesus says, that they are sinners.

Eph. 4:17-19 Spiritual blindness leads to moral blindness.

Rom. 1:28-32 People know what is right and wrong but are blind to it because they refuse to obey God.

The cost of sin is great. The first thing it will do is keep you from seeing straight. But that is not the last thing.

In Luke 19:43 Jesus speaks what one commentator calls "a searing oracle of doom"

This is a prophesy of doom like Jeremiah or Ezekiel

This prophecy is just like those the Lord spoke to the pagan nations throughout the OT.

Jerusalem will be surrounded and trapped, (vs. 43) and they will be destroyed. (vs. 44)

This is exactly what the Romans did to Jerusalem in AD 70, 40 years into the future, before Luke wrote this.

The Lord will judge His people because they refused to see him, believe Him, and obey Him.

Jesus the King came to save you from judgment like this.

You might think, "I'm glad I'm not like them." But we're made of the same stuff.

We have been learning in the book of Numbers that we must learn from the sins of others in the past.

Sometimes God sends disaster to get our attention... but, if we do not pay attention, He will destroy us.

Sometimes He is just teaching us to trust Him, that He is enough.

Other times He is trying to get us to see our blindness, our sin, our disobedience.

Why? Because, like them, we "did not recognize the time of [our] visitation"

We have failed to see God's moment, His miracles, His lessons for us. We turned away from the Messiah.

Do not presume upon Him, upon His mercy.

Do you long for Him?

Do you want to see Jesus?

So then... what are you going to do? He is the King.

You must listen to what He says. You must trust Him. You must obey what He says.

III. Jesus the King has all authority.

Luke 19:45-48

We have seen the glory of the King, Jesus. We have seen His intimate knowledge of all things, including us.
Now we see the absolute authority of the King.

vss. 45-46 Jesus acts like the Temple is His own, because it is.

In His Temple Jesus quotes Isaiah 56 as if He wrote it. In a sense, He did.

Isaiah 56:7-8 There are two important parts to this prophecy about the house of the Lord.

1. It is to be a “house of prayer.”

2. It will be a place where “all the peoples” will be gathered.

“prayer” = not asking God for stuff... or to do things... prayer is worship!

Obviously = what is to be done in the Temple... seeking God, praising God, sacrifice, service for God.

People from every nation would be drawn to the Lord was the purpose of Israel.

And it is a fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham.

But Jesus says, they have made it “a den of robbers” = they were making money, a profit (a little capitalism).

Luke here tells us in verse 45 that people were there “selling.”

In Matthew and Mark we learn a little more about these merchants.

“money changers” = only Tyrian coins were accepted in the Temple offering, and people used Roman coinage.

To worship God by giving the tithes, people had to change their money into Tyrian coins.

So, these merchants were making money by adding a commission to the exchange rates.

“those selling doves” = people came to worship, but hard (expensive) to bring animals long distances

Doves were the only living sacrifice acceptable in the Temple that many poor people could buy.

So the merchants were making money off of these poor people who came to worship.

Moreover, they were doing this in the part of the Temple designed to be the place where Gentiles could worship.

These merchants were using the place for all peoples to come and pray and worship God.

These merchants were interfering with the plan of Jesus to save people from all nations.

So Jesus drove them out = how could He do that? Remember who He is!

He owns it all... the colt, the coats, the rocks, the city, the tables, the doves... all His.

vss. 47-48 The chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people...

They understand precisely that Jesus thinks He owns the place.

And they are upset by this because they do not acknowledge His authority. The authority of Jesus is the issue.

So upset are they that they want to kill Him.

But they cannot kill Him because He hasn’t done anything wrong.

Some would read this passage and teach that this leans that we ought to pray in our churches rather than sell stuff.

I agree. We ought to pray and not sell stuff in church.

However, lest you misunderstand the auction tonight, it is a festival of giving for kids to go to camp.

But this church building does not correspond to the Temple in Jerusalem.

What does? Jesus’ body. He fulfills the purpose of the Temple.

And now, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in everyone who believes and follows Jesus as Savior and King.

Jesus Christ is our Temple, and we are His.

He owns us completely. This means two things in this context:

1. We ought to pray constantly. We are to live in constant communication with God.

2. We are to draw others, all kinds of people, to come and worship Him.

Because all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus.

This week, of all weeks, it is time to live like this, lifting up Jesus the King.