

Offices of Jesus Christ

Christ the King

Genesis 49:8-10

“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down to you. Judah is a lion’s cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.*”

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

“When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’ you may indeed set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’ And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

“And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

Problem and Promise

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

-- Judges 21:25

“...Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house...And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

-- 2 Samuel 7

Failure and Promise

Kings and Chronicles End with Defeat and Exile

- Josiah: “[Josiah] did not listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but came to fight in the plain of Megiddo” (2 Chron. 35:22).

But God Promises a Coming King

- Isaiah 9: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder...Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it...”
- Psalm 110

Luke 1:31-33

“And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

What Kind of King?

“So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

-- John 18:33-38

What Kind of Kingdom?

“And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, ‘Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.’”

-- Revelation 5:8-10

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

-- Matthew 5:3

Clarity and Confidence

“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

-- Psalm 2:6

“Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, ‘The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.’” Let the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

-- Acts 2:33-36

Clarity and Confidence

“Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.”

-- Hebrews 12:28-29

WSC Q. 26. How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

A. Christ executeth the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies