

The Reign of Christ the King ~ Sunday, November 24, 2024

“The 12 Keys to Spiritual Maturity ~

Key #12: Acknowledging Jesus as King”

Colossians 1:15-23

The purpose of Christ the King Sunday is to celebrate the coming _____ of Christ as King of the Universe and His _____ of the renewed creation that marks the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

This hope is born from the entire _____ of Christ and His teachings that have been celebrated in the seasons of the Church Year during the past twelve months.

The Reign of Christ the King also provides an appropriate _____ to the new Church Year that begins next week on the first Sunday of Advent, which emphasizes _____ and _____, and the longing for the coming of the Kingdom of God amid the darkness of a sinful world.

The first two chapters of Colossians are all about the kingship—or _____—of Jesus.

According to Paul, to proclaim Jesus as king is to _____ Him in our hearts, to give Him the place of honour, and to allow Him to rule in our lives. To proclaim Jesus as King is to give Him first place above everything else—to make Him the _____, around which everything else in our life—and indeed, the universe—revolves.

3 WAYS THAT TO ACKNOWLEDGE JESUS AS KING

#1. Acknowledging Jesus as King means: _____.

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” (1 Peter 3:15)

As Christians, it’s important that we’re able to share what we believe and why.

“For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.” (Colossians 1:13)

4 ELEMENTS OF OUR SALVATION TO BE THANKFUL FOR

• **Jesus our King _____ us.**

“You were once dead because of your failures and sins. You followed the ways of this present world and its spiritual ruler...So, because of our nature, we deserved God's anger just like everyone else. But God is rich in mercy because of his great

love for us. We were dead because of our failures, but he made us alive together with Christ.” (Ephesians 2:1-5)

• **Jesus our King _____ us.**

“But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.” (Heb 11:16)

• **Jesus our King _____ us.
Redeem =**

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.” (Ephesians 1:7)

• **Jesus our King _____ us.**

God’s forgiveness is:

“God’s readiness to give and forgive is now public. Salvation's available for everyone!” (Titus 2:11)

How thankful are you?

#2. Acknowledging Jesus as King means: _____.

False teachers usually don’t _____ Jesus because they can’t. Instead, they try to _____ Him. They don’t deny His prominence, but rather His _____. He can be out front, but He can’t be first.

They believe Jesus is a way; but not _____ way. However, as good as it might sound, any teaching that _____ or limits the person and work of Jesus; any teaching that seeks to elevate us and what we can do, above Jesus and what He’s already done, is _____.

7 TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS THAT WE NEED TO KNOW

• **Jesus is _____.**

“He is the image of the invisible God...” (Colossians 1:15)

“The father and I are one.” (John 10:30)

• **Jesus is _____.**

“We follow this sequence in Scripture: The First Adam received life, the Last Adam is a life-giving Spirit. Physical life comes first, then spiritual—a firm base shaped from the earth, a final completion coming out of heaven. The First Man was made out of earth, and people since then are earthy; the Second Man was made out of heaven, and people now can be heavenly. In the same way that we've worked from our earthy origins, let's embrace our heavenly ends.” (1 Corinthians 15:45ff)

“Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name...” (Philippians 2:9)

• **Jesus is** _____.

“For by Him all things were created. Things in heaven and things on earth. Visible and invisible. Whether throne or powers or rulers or authorities, all things were created by Him.” (Colossians 1:15)

“In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him...” (John 1:1-4)

“I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end. I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.” (Revelation 1:8)

• **Jesus is** _____.

“all things were created by him and for him.” (Colossians 1:16)

“The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands.” (John 3:35)

• **Jesus is** _____.

“He is before all things and in Him all things hold together.” (Colossians 1:17)

• **Jesus is** _____.

“God has put everything under the control of Christ. He has made Christ the head of everything for the good of the church. The church is Christ's body and completes him as he fills everything in every way.” (Ephesians 1:22)

• **Jesus is** _____.

“And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead...” (1 Corinthians 15:16)

Giving Jesus first place in our life means _____ these truths about Him—learning them, loving them, and _____ them out in our everyday lives.

Do you believe what the Scripture says about Him?

#3. Acknowledging Jesus as King means: _____.

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.” (Colossians 1:19-20)

Reconciliation happens when someone, something, or a situation is completely _____ and changed so that a relationship of _____ can begin with the one with whom estrangement had taken place.

4 ELEMENTS OF RECONCILIATION IN CHRIST

• The _____ is to reconcile to Himself, and so the initiative and action must come from _____.

• The _____ is all things. Reconciliation involves the whole _____.

• The _____ is peace. Through Jesus, our _____ with God can end.

• The _____ is through Christ's _____ on the cross.

The good news is that God not only reconciles us to Himself through Christ, He also calls us to be _____ of reconciliation in the world, drawing others to Him.

“So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us.” (2 Corinthians 5:20)

Despite all the things that we'll do and be in this life, our _____ calling as followers of Jesus is to _____ Him to the world as agents of reconciliation and to draw warring parties together.

“People who do not believe are living all around you and might say you're doing wrong. So live such good lives that they'll see the good things you do and will give glory to God.” (1 Peter 2:12)

As Jesus' representatives, our first job is to be living _____ of His character and qualities...

“...lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.” (Ephesians 4: 1)

How well do you represent Jesus?



**Is acknowledging Jesus a key on your spiritual key chain, so to speak?
Does He have first place in your life?**