

On The Way to Jesus pt 6 Establishing the Monarchy

If you missed the first five weeks, then let me tell you what we're doing in this series. We are looking at the Big Story of Jesus that is woven throughout all of the bible.

Today we come to the period when Israel shifts from Judges to a Monarchy. As Christians we are all Monarchists, whether we recognize it or not.

Establishing the Monarchy

God installs a king over Israel as his vice-regent to bring security to the nation and build a temple where His manifest presence would be made known.

The Biblical narrative of Kingly rule runs from Gen to Revelation

God is King in Creation

Ps 100 "It is He who has made us and not we ourselves."

He was King at the Flood

- Ps 29

10 The Lord sat as King at the flood; Yes, the Lord sits as King forever.

GOD was King, even when Israel rejected Him as king and chose to be like the nations

Israel conquered the promised Land but was feeling vulnerable, so they were looking for security in human agents rather than in the Lord God, Yahweh Himself.

1 Samuel 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; 5 and they said to him, "Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations." 6 But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. 7The Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them"

If we're honest, we all know that human security is precarious. As Helen Keller said, "Security is mostly a superstition. Security does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it...Life is either a daring adventure or nothing."

God Warns Israel about the impact of a King 1 Sam 8:10-18

In the same passage Samuel warns of how a king will gather your sons for his service; he will use soldiers to plow and harvest his fields; he will take your daughters for perfumers and cooking; he will take your fields, vineyards, servants and olive groves for his servants; he will take a tenth of your resources for himself and his officers... 18 Then you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you in that day."

In short, the king would act like an ancient Near East absolute monarch.

A Predicted King Deuteronomy 17:14 - 15 had carefully specified the following: When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you and you have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, "Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us," be sure to appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses.

Therefore, kingship as such was not outside the plan of God. It had only to wait for the proper time and for God's selection.

KAISER:

The prospect of a coming king was a constant theme in the promise-plan of God, for it appeared in the promises to the patriarchs, in the prophecies of Balaam, and in Deuteronomy. But the people had a false start with King Saul when they asked for a king for improper reasons. God's choice will fall to David in 2 Samuel 7, one of the most significant prophecies of the Bible. (Ge 17:6, 16; 35:11; (Nu 24:7, 17 - 19); (17:14 - 20

Samuel's opposition appears strange at first in light of the promise of Deuteronomy 17:14 - 20, where directions had been given on how to act in the event that the people should desire a king. **But Samuel's opposition, as well as Yahweh's, was a condemnation of the people's spirit and motives for requesting a king; they wished to be "like all the nations" in having a king (8:5, 20).** It was also a tacit statement of disbelief in the power and presence of God: they wanted a king to go before them and fight their battles (v. 20).

Samuel instructed the people on their responsibilities of being under a king, and the people got what they asked for: Saul.

At first things went well as God's hand and Spirit were upon him. He won victories and rooted out all sorts of superstition and occult practices. He was God's 'anointed' and 'chosen' (1 Sam 10:1, 20, 24).

Saul had not been promised a hereditary rule and he was later rejected by God, who looked for a "man after his own heart" (1 Sam 13:14).

The common title for king was "the anointed one." It was used of Saul and David ten times each. Of the 39 occurrences in the OT, 23 are in reference to the reigning king of Israel.

This means that there were nine passages left where the "anointed one" denoted some coming person, usually in the line of David (1Sa 2:10; 2:35; Pss 2:2; 20:6; 28:8; 84:9; Hab 3:13; Da 9:25 - 26). He was Yahweh's king who would reign over his everlasting kingdom on earth; yet simultaneously he was that chosen man in the line of election who was entitled to sit as God's representative on the throne of David.

The Promise-Plan initiated with Abraham was expanded in reference to David and his descendants who would reign. 2 Sam 7 and 1 Chron 17 describe this promise.

2 Sam 7: The Lord also declares to you that the Lord will make a house for you. 12 When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom ...16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.

BUILDING A temple was closely connected with the establishment of a kingdom in the ancient Near East. (Kaiser p. 136)

Eight times in 2 Sam 7 God (Yahweh) promised to make David a "house", i.e. a line of descendants. God established David as King, and then one of his house would build THE HOUSE for God - the TEMPLE.

David's line was to be filled with Kingly descendants. David was seen as the model for kings, yet he sinned against the Lord and others by acting like a typical ancient king whose word and desire was the Law. David was confronted with his sin and injustice, and he repented, yet the consequences played out over the remaining days of his reign.

The tendency to gather power and act like an absolute monarch was the concern indicated in Deut and by Samuel. That concern was born out in Saul and David and continued throughout the monarchy.

While the kings sinned in their lives and in their use of power, God remained faithful to His gracious promises.

God's promise plan for a king was confirmed by the Covenant with David. Instead of building God a house, God would give David a lineage and a legacy of a special Father – son relationship between Yahweh and the king – 2 Sam 7:14; Ps 2:7; Ps 89:27

The promises to the patriarchs indicated that Israel would have 'kings, a kingdom, and dominion.' We now see that this would happen through David and His Seed or posterity.

David became so closely linked with God's reign over His people that 1 Chron 28:5 speaks of Solomon sitting on the "throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel." The rule of God and the Davidic kingdom were regarded as one.

God would continue to use imperfect kings to advance the spread of His Name until the true king would arrive.

Ps 2 ; 110

Jesus as the Completion of The Messianic King - Baylis

Christians often read the New Testament as if its Old Testament quotations about Christ are referring only to him. This frequently is not the case.... As often as not, the New Testament quotations reflect the completion of God's promises in Christ. Christ is predicted throughout the Scriptures (Luke 24:27), but he is not necessarily directly predicted in all the Scriptures. Nor is he hidden there in some mystical or allegorical way. All of these lines of promise and great themes of the Old Testament ultimately meet in Christ.

How is the kingly Promise Plan fulfilled in Christ? Consider the following:

-Jesus was born in the line of David (Matt. 1:1-17; Luke 2:4; Rom. 1:3)

-He rode into Jerusalem in the predicted manner, and accepted the acclamations of those who saw him as the son of David who would save them and introduce the coming kingdom (Mark 11:2-10; Luke 19; cf. Ps. 118:25-26; Zech. 9:9)

His resurrection from the dead fulfilled Psalm 2 (Acts 13:32-33).

32 And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, 33 that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'You are My Son; today I have begotten You.' 34 As for the fact that He raised Him up from the dead, no longer to return to decay, He has spoken in this way: 'I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.'

Luke 24:50-53 Ps 110:1 Ascension

1 The Lord says to my Lord:

"Sit at My right hand

Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."

Acts 17 -Jesus is seen by his opponents as being "another king"

"These men who have upset the world have come here also; 7 and Jason has welcomed them, and they all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus."

**When Caesar, or the State, is big, those who follow Christ as King will be seen as a threat to the status quo and the spirit of the age. If Christians are not seen as those who upset the world's values, it's because they are not following another King – Jesus.

Philippians 2 (Jesus exalted as king)

9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Revelation 7:10 Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.

His reign over the nations on earth—when he “will rule them with an iron scepter”- is yet future. It will be implemented at his return to earth (Ps. 2:9) (Rev. 19:15; 12:5)

If I had stretched this series out for a couple of more weeks before this topic we could have landed on Ascension Sunday, either May 14 or 21. Ascension Day is May 18th.

We can celebrate the Ascension every day. We acknowledge it publicly each time we profess our faith through the

APOSTLE’S CREED – The third day he rose again from the dead and Ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty...

The Ascended Christ sends forth the promise of the Spirit.

If the resurrection is seen as “the main event of history and the climax of the Christian story”, the Ascension is the crowning of our King as He sits upon His throne in glory. From there, He bestows many gifts upon us, the chief of which is union with Him through the Holy Spirit. In Christ, we find life and fitness for service to the King of kings and Lord of lords who is our divine Rescuer and the Lover of our souls.

We need a true king of righteousness, not some moral therapeutic cosmic counselor whose job it is to make us feel good about ourselves.

There’s no time for games with the spirit of the age. People need hope and good news of the true King, not the self-focused actualization offered by this present age.

WCFLC – Christ as King

Question 45: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

Answer: Christ executes the office of a king, in calling out of the world a people to himself, and giving them officers, laws, and censures, by which he visibly governs them; in bestowing saving grace upon his elect, rewarding their obedience, and correcting them for their sins, preserving and supporting them under all their temptations and sufferings, restraining and overcoming all their enemies, and powerfully ordering all things for his own glory, and their good; and also in taking vengeance on the rest, who know not God, and obey not the gospel.

MY KING S.M. Lockridge gives a good summary of Jesus as KING...

<https://www.bible-commentaries.com/source/audio/myKing.mp3>

<https://luminipentrusuflet.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Thats-My-King-Do-You-Know-Him.pdf>

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9. Establishing the Monarchy

God installs a king over Israel as his vice-regent to bring security to the nation and build a temple where his

manifest presence would be made known.

- 1 Samuel 1-2 (Samuel as interim leader)
- 1 Samuel 8-10 (Saul anointed king)
- 1 Samuel 16 (David is anointed)
- 2 Samuel 5 (David rules a united kingdom)
- 2 Samuel 11-12 (David, Bathsheba, Solomon)
- 1 Chronicles 17 (Covenant with David)
- 2 Chronicles 5 (Solomon completes temple)
- Psalm 2 (God's royal son)
- Psalm 18 (David's song of God's deliverance)
- Psalm 89 (Covenant with David)
- Psalm 110 ("Sit at my right hand")
- Matthew 12 (Jesus > temple > Solomon)
- Luke 1-2 (Jesus, the davidic King)
- Luke 20 (Jesus and Psalm 110)
- Romans 1 (Jesus, of David in the flesh)
- Philippians 2 (Jesus exalted as king)
- Hebrews 12 (Jesus on the throne)
- Revelation 7 (Worship the enthroned Lamb)