

First Sunday in Advent

Sermon Road Map
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Luke 19:28-40
November 28, 2021

Welcome King Jesus, anticipating that he comes to rescue me from me.

- Those who love a Festival anticipate the day. They long for its coming.
- God's people had been waiting with anticipation for 1,000 years for the Advent of this King, the righteous branch of David.
- They shouted: Hosanna! He's come to save us! Just as God promised!
- This account of *Your King comes* is an ancient way to begin Advent preparation.

Welcome King Jesus, anticipating that he comes to rescue me from me.

- ❖ The King of Righteousness comes with comfort and joy
 - Jeremiah proclaimed this to a people whose rebellion was sending them into exile.
 - ◆ The Lord promised the righteous Branch of David who'd save them from themselves.
 - God's people recognize this Advent is the fulfillment of God's promises
 - ◆ In this 1 person - this King - all of God's promises rest and rely
 - ◆ The Passover of God: our release from captivity to guilt, death, Satan
 - ◆ Our loving powerful shepherd King - protects us from all enemies, old self included
 - ◆ He came with compassionate care to a sin-broken world
 - His miracles prove both his love and power, hope for us in all our frailties
 - Who wouldn't always welcome this King of Righteousness?
- ❖ Luke brackets this Advent with a warning against selectively welcoming
 - Jesus' Coming was unwelcome to a group of Pharisees.
 - ◆ They knew the Scriptures. This event declared Jesus the Messiah.
 - Jesus' entrance of Jerusalem on a donkey - Zechariah 9:9
 - The throng before and after proclaimed Jesus as God's Messiah King
 - ◆ But they foolishly considered the crowd's praises to be an insult to God. Why?
 - They didn't share the people's welcome of Jesus. They didn't welcome his words!
 - Jesus' miracles (signs of God's approval) and his message challenged their way of thinking, their theology, their view of God and of themselves as righteous.
 - Jesus exposed their lives as unrighteous folly. They were insulted.
 - Convinced that they were right and Jesus wrong: *You're not God's promised King!*
 - At Zacchaeus' house in Jericho - Jesus told the Parable of the 10 Minas - Luke 19:11-27
 - ◆ About the joys and blessings of gladly serving as stewards to the Messiah King
 - ◆ About judgment on those who despised & opposed his reign - eternal removal awaits
 - *A prince went to a distant country to be appointed king, ...* Luke 19:12 GOD'S WORD
 - *The citizens of his own country hated him. They sent representatives to follow him and say to the person who was going to appoint him, 'We don't want this man to be our king.' After he was appointed king, he came back.* Luke 19:14 GOD'S WORD
 - Upon his return the King called the servants to give an account of their service.
 - Those who delighted to serve brought their returns and were honored with service
 - Then he ordered: *Bring my enemies, who didn't want me to be their king. Kill them in front of me.* Luke 19:27 GOD'S WORD

- ◆ Many welcome this King Jesus, God's Messiah. But that's the real Advent King!
 - He repeats this judgment:
 - *Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.* Matthew 22:13
 - *Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.* Matthew 25:41
 - Those who don't want Jesus to be their King are removed. They don't belong.
 - As today's First Lesson promises - His is a kingdom of righteousness.
 - Those who despise the King and love unrighteousness do not belong.
- ❖ Every Christian knows the temptation and challenge of selectively welcoming Jesus.
 - Our hope for eternal life, protection, prayers answered - We gladly say, *He's my King.*
 - Sadly, we know the folly of selectively welcoming Jesus and his word
 - ◆ Places, times, and relationship where Jesus & his word are *inconvenient*
 - Like a corrected child or pet - we try to look away: *You're talking to me?*
 - ◆ Insisting on our right to be angry - giving in to our excesses - being grumpy stubbornly rejecting: *Rejoice in the Lord always.*
 - ◆ Ignoring Jesus' call to be daily restored by his word - reading, reflecting
 - ◆ Treating as optional instructions:
 - *Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness...* Matthew 6:33
 - *Be people who do what the word says, not people who only hear it. Such people are deceiving themselves.* James 1:22
 - ◆ Treating the assembly of believers as an optional event or merely an obligation - not the King's domain for disciple making, life enriching, community of care.
 - Folly holds Satan's **lie** as *sacred: that freedom in God's kingdom means I am free to do what seems good to me.*
 - Gertie's story: *Dad said, go enjoy your time with your friends. Just don't go any place you would be embarrassed to take Jesus with you.*
 - ◆ Everywhere you go - in everything you do...

Welcome King Jesus, anticipating that he comes to rescue me from me.

- ❖ Jesus' mission & passion: rescue each of us **from** sin and **for** righteousness
 - All who grieve over their brokenness, folly, blindness, wicked eyes for ungodly things, their foolish, blind, and dead old self - long to be rescued.
 - Jesus' Advent is awesome. *I welcome my King to come and rescue me from me.*

Live confidently praying: *Hosanna! Lord, come save me now from me. Amen.*