

Who Are You Clinging To?

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Scriptures: [Romans 6.4-6](#), [John 20.17](#), [Colossians 2.6-15](#), [3.1-4](#)

Coronation

When a prince becomes king there is a ceremony called a coronation.

The coronation is the celebration of a new era, the dawning of a new age for the people.

The coronation is the moment when the people recognize the new king as having all power and authority in the land.

The moment of the previous king's death is when authority transfers to the new king, but the coronation is when the PEOPLE actually come out of mourning for the old king and acknowledge the lordship of the new king. Because the coronation is a celebration, there is a span of time between death of the previous monarch and coronation of the new...it would be inappropriate to celebrate the new king right away. Without a coronation, there *will* be a new king on the throne who has all authority in the kingdom, but the people of the kingdom will be stuck between the reign of the old king and the new.

If you're a born again follower of Jesus, then who is on the throne of your kingdom?

Jesus. Jesus is King. That's fact.

Before you were born again, who sat on the throne of your kingdom? You did.

What had to happen to remove you from the throne? You had to die.

This is why Jesus tells Nicodemus in [John 3](#),

“Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God” ([John 3.3](#)).

Before anyone can enter God's kingdom, there must a death to every other king sitting on every other throne.

Before you were born again, there were imposter kings on the throne of your kingdom... maybe fear was on the throne, and fear is what ruled your world...or maybe trauma was on the throne...or maybe greed or lust or adventure or money or success...or perhaps

there were many kings on many thrones in your kingdom. But turning your kingdom over to Jesus means that each of these imposter kings had to die.

You say, “I thought Jesus is the one who died.” This is the mystery of His kingdom, we are now in Christ, and Christ is now in us...as Paul says in [Colossians 1.26](#),

“The mystery hidden for ages and generations, but now revealed to the saints of God...is this; Christ *in* you” ([Colossians 1.26-27](#)).

We talked about this the other week; what it means to be born again into union with God. We are now in Christ, Christ is now in us, we are one. And this is why the principle of union is so important,

“I have been crucified *with* Christ. It’s no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me” ([Galatians 2.20](#)).

It’s no longer fear who lives...but Christ who lives in me.

It’s no longer greed who lives...

It’s no longer lustful desires who live...

It’s no longer my addiction who lives...

It’s no longer my flesh who lives...

Surrendering to Jesus means that we, and all of our imposter kings, became joined to Jesus in His death.

To put it another way; Jesus didn’t die alone.

Fear was nailed to the cross,

trauma and tragedy and addiction were nailed to the cross,

infidelity was nailed to the cross,

greed and the fear of man was nailed to the cross.

And most importantly, you were nailed to the cross.

Because you are joined to Him in His death, you are also joined to Him in His resurrection,

“We were buried with Him through baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead...even so we also walk in newness of life. For if we have been UNITED together in His death, certainly we also shall be (UNITED together) in His resurrection” ([Romans 6.4-6](#)).

You died with Christ, you were buried with Christ, you were raised with Christ. And because none of those other imposter kings are allowed in His kingdom...those things stayed in the grave.

There's no throne for fear to sit on anymore...

there's no throne for shame to sit on anymore...

there's no throne for addiction to sit on anymore...

there's no throne for bitterness and unforgiveness to sit on anymore.

Jesus is King.

This is the gospel. This is what happens when someone surrenders their life to King Jesus. They join Him in His death, burial, and resurrection. But the good news of the gospel doesn't end with resurrection. But, sadly, for many believers, it does.

Where is Jesus right now? Is He standing outside of the grave celebrating His resurrection? No, He has ascended and is seated on the throne at the right hand of the Father.

Heaven has received Him as king, but have you?

Have you celebrated the coronation of the new king?

“Don't Cling to Me”

John 20 records something fascinating that happens on the third day when Mary comes to Jesus outside of the tomb. She thinks He is the gardner. She asks,

“Sir, where have you laid Him?”

When Jesus says her name she realizes that it's Jesus, not the gardner. She wraps her arms around Him and Jesus says this to her,

“Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go tell My brothers, ‘I am ascending...’” (**John 20.17**).

“I am ascending to the throne and it's vital that My disciples be there for the coronation. It's not yet time to cling to Me, because you must cling to Me as King, not just resurrected Savior.”

Mary was caught between the death, burial, and resurrection of the Savior and His coronation as King.

What about you? Have you celebrated the coronation of the new king? Is He the ascended and enthroned King in your life, or is He simply the resurrected Savior. Who, or what, is sitting on the throne of your heart?

Multitudes acknowledge the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, but still live as if they were king? No one would ever say that, but so many Christians actually live like that. And then we wonder why there is such internal discord, such a lack of peace in our lives... because we have two kings on the throne...and a house divided can never stand.

This is why many born again believers can't find peace...can't find victory of sin...can't find authority over attacks from the enemy. They may be clinging to the resurrected Savior, but they have not bowed their knee to the King.

This is how you can have churches that genuinely preach the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, but still look like the world, and leverage the wisdom of the world to achieve success that they say is for the kingdom of God. But how can it be for the kingdom of God when Jesus is not king in that church; the denomination is king, the doctrine is king, the gifted CEO pastor is king, the prophet is king, the worship band is king.

We can't just cling to the resurrected Savior, kingdom people have bowed their knee to the King. Jesus People are people of the ascension...people who rejoice in the coronation of the new King...and now live their lives submitted and surrendered to King Jesus.

The result of multiple kings

I believe the reason there are inconsistencies in an individual's walk with Jesus is because they are clinging to a resurrected Savior, but they still have multiple kings fighting for influence in their life. I believe this is why there are extremes and dramatic swings in our Christian walk...high highs and low lows. Paul could experience the full gamut of what this world threw at him and still say,

“I have learned to be content in all things.”

How? He wasn't clinging to a resurrected Savior, he was surrendered to an enthroned King...who was;

Lord over every city and village he went to...

Lord over the ships that brought him there, whether that ship was safely sailing into harbor or battered against the rocks...

Lord over the synagogue he preached in, whether they received his message or stoned him and threw him in prison.

Jesus is King, and Paul knew it...so every high place in Paul's world was made low and every valley was brought up. There was peace in that man's life because the Prince of Peace was enthroned in his kingdom.

John the Baptist came as a forerunner for the Messiah. The Jews knew that the Messiah was not just a savior, He was coming to be king. John's assignment was to,

“prepare the way of the Lord, and make straight His paths. Every valley filled and every mountain brought low...” (Luke 3.4-5).

The highs and lows of life, and relationship with God, were now going to be smoothed out...because the PRINCE OF PEACE was getting ready to ascend to the throne.

When the Prince of Peace is on the throne, there is a quiet confidence that His people have.

There is joy because we have the best King.

There is peace in the hearts of His people because we know who He is.

The days of inconsistencies and fear and worry are over.

“Well, what about when enemies attack?”

Are you kidding? Have you seen our King? He's got a sword in His mouth and fire in His eyes. He speaks and mountains shake...every enemy has been defeated.

“Well, what about when there's famine and lack?”

Are you kidding? Have you seen what He can do with 5 loaves of bread?

“Well, what about when sickness invades our homes?”

Are you kidding? He bore our sicknesses and diseases. He heals all our diseases.

“Well, what about when loved ones die?”

Are you kidding? He raises the dead.

“Well, what about when bad things happen to good people?”

Are you kidding? He causes all things to work together for good. Even the bad things He turns for good.

Fear and anxiety and inconsistencies in our walk with Jesus should serve as announcements that something else is occupying the throne of our heart. Those things should be the canary in the mine shaft warning us that an imposter is on the throne.

You think, “Man, why doesn’t Jesus just take possession of the throne in my life and kick the imposters out?” That might be what other kings do, but that’s not the type of King that Jesus is.

When Israel demanded a king in the book of **1 Samuel chapter 8**, God warned them what was going to happen. By demanding a king, Israel had rejected God as king...and He warned Israel what this king would do; he would take your sons and put them in his army,

he would take your daughters and use them in his bakeries and kitchens,

he would take from your fields and your vineyards,

he would take from your servants and your flocks and use them for his own work.

Kings of this world take...they take whatever they want.

But Jesus...what kind of King is Jesus?

Matt 11:28-30 - “Come to Me all who are weary and burdened and I will GIVE you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am GENTLE and HUMBLE in heart...”

What kind of King is Jesus?

John 6:51 - “I am the living bread of God which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I will GIVE is My flesh, which I shall GIVE for the life of the world.”

What kind of King is Jesus?

Revelation 2-3 - “To him who overcomes I will GIVE of the tree of life...GIVE of the hidden manna to eat...GIVE power over the nations...GIVE him the morning star... GIVE the right to sit with Me on My throne...”

What kind of King is Jesus?

The kind of King that GIVES salvation (**Ephesians 2.8**),

The kind of King that GIVES the Holy Spirit (**Acts 2.38**),

even to the wicked who reject Him, **Romans 1** says that He GIVES them over to the lusts of their hearts...GIVES them over to their vile passions...GIVES them over to their depraved minds” (**Romans 1.24, 26, 28**).

What kind of King is Jesus?

John 3:15 - “For God so loved the world that He GAVE...”

Jesus is not going to demand to sit on the throne of your heart...because Jesus doesn't take, He gives. He gives us the invitation to His coronation.

“Come and watch Me ascend, and see Me seated on the throne...cling to Me, but cling to Me where I am...seated on a throne with scars in My hands because I was dead but now I'm alive.”

Closing

In *this* age, the Kingdom of God is an offer, a gift which may be accepted or rejected. In *this* moment in history, the Kingdom of God is here with persuasion rather than with irresistible power. The mystery of the Kingdom is this: The Kingdom of God has come but we can reject it. The King is enthroned but we can ignore Him.

The Kingdom of God has come, but it has come like a man sowing seed, not storming the beaches of Normandy. The scandal of this Kingdom is it will not experience total success in this age...

some of the seed will fall on the hard ground,
some on the rocky soil,
some among the thorns.
Not all will receive this kingdom.

One day God will manifest His power to purge the earth of wickedness, sin and evil; but not now...not yet. For now, God's Kingdom is working among us like leaven. Leaven doesn't explode, it spreads. God's kingdom must be received; the response must come from a willing heart and a submissive will.

So we are left with 2 questions: for the world, the question is who is on the throne of your life? Surrender to King Jesus and receive the invitation into His kingdom.

For those who believe in Him; the question is who are you clinging to? The resurrected Savior? Awesome, that's a great place to start...now see Him ascended, and cling to Him as King.

Colossians 2.6-15, 3.1-4