

John 18:33-37  
"Christ the King"

In an article written by Lesli White she writes the following about Christ the King Sunday: "The first Feast of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 and was to be celebrated throughout the universal church. This feast day was in response to the increasing denial of Christ as king and the rise of secularism throughout Europe. During this period, many Christians including Catholics doubted not only Christ's authority, but also His existence. They were also denying the Church's power to continue Christ's authority. This was also a time when dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. As Pope Pius and other faithful Christians began to see the respect and reverence for Christ's authority diminishing, this feast was put in place to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus." To be clear ascribing the title of king to Jesus was not the brainchild of Pope Pius XI. His idea was fitting because scripture is clear on the matter.

**Rev. 19:16** "On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords".

**Phil 2:9-11** "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Christ is King above all others and scripture is absolutely clear on that matter and it is necessary that we be constantly reminded of this fact. It is especially necessary to be reminded of this truth in times of anxiousness and fear. So today I remind us that Christ is King and in

doing so would like to share three things about his kingdom, his kingship.

**First, Jesus' kingdom is utterly unworldly. 36a** "Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world." What is to be of the world? Well, the Greek word is *kosmos* and quoting from blueletterbible.org the word means, "the aggregate of things earthly; the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments, riches, advantages, pleasures, etc., which, although hollow and frail and fleeting, stir desire, seduce from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ". Simply stated, to be of the world or worldly is to be caught up in and seduced by worldly affairs, believing your hope is found in something earthly rather than the eternal. Jesus's kingdom it is not confined to the fleeting values of the world, but rooted in his eternal sovereignty. As King, all things are subject to him and so the reach of those who are in power on this earth is constrained by the sovereign rule of God, of Jesus the Christ. And since his Kingdom is not worldly neither should his disciples be.

**Matt 28:18** "<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

**Romans 13:1-2** "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment."

**John 17:15-18** "<sup>15</sup>I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world."

**1 John 2:15-17** “<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.<sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.<sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”

**Second, Jesus’ kingship is not influenced or affected by earthly affairs. V36b** “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.” What happened to Jesus was completely and totally the sovereign eternal will of the Father. Jesus’ kingship is not influenced or affected by earthly events. In fact, it is the other way around. Church, no one in heaven had their fingers crossed for either candidate for the presidency of the United States because the policy that comes or will come out of Washington DC, or any other country’s government, has no bearing on Jesus’ rule. The eternal sovereignty of Christ is not tied up in earthly affairs, nor is it swayed by the political tide or bound to any political party’s platform. Jesus is clear that if what happens on earth had any bearing upon his kingdom the heavenly host would have intervened. This being the case, his church has no reason to be overly worried about or fearful of the things happening on this earth.

**Matt 26:50-54** “<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. <sup>51</sup> And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more

than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?"

**Matt 24:6-8** <sup>6</sup> "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet."

**Matt 6:30-34** <sup>30</sup> "And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? <sup>31</sup> "So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup> These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. <sup>33</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. <sup>34</sup> "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."

**Third and final thing, King Jesus is completely in control. V37** "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." God knows what God is doing and believing this is the key to our peace. There has never been a point in the history of humankind or any moment in eternity where God had to ask himself, "what do we do now?" **Jesus is not scratching his head thinking to himself what is his next move. He wasn't then when he was brought before Pilate and he isn't now, nor will he ever be.** Jesus is in complete control. "Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice". Do we believe that and are we listening?

**John 8:46-47** <sup>46</sup> "Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup> Whoever is of God hears the words of

God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

**John 10:27-28** “<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.”

Christ is King, not democrat or republican. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.