

# KING of kings, LORD of lords

ORDER OF SERVICE: Worship (2 Songs), Read passage, pray through passage for 15 minutes, Worship (1 song), teach for about 15-20 minutes, pray for another 15 minutes about how to live in response. End in Worship song (During interlude- refer to old testament prophecy)

Recap Dave's sermon:

- We are going to be looking specifically at the Resurrection of Jesus- This is the focal point or I could say crescendo of what we believe as followers of Christ.
  - The Gospel writers were not the only ones who emphasized the importance of the resurrection.
  - The Apostle Paul says this in **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**  
**3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**

Of all the things that Paul writes, he is saying here is the most important thing.

- That Jesus died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures.
- That he was buried on the 3rd day, Jesus rose again- in accordance with the scriptures.
  - Now that phrase should sound familiar- Because this is exactly what John does in his account.
  - Time and time again he's going back to the Old Testament and how there were several prophecies written and spoken about of this Coming Messiah Jesus.

Let's look at the text. **John 20:1-18**

- **Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.**
  - So what we can see from this text is that Mary goes to the tomb & by the way other Gospel accounts say that there were a couple other women w/ Mary.
  - Notice how it says it was still dark. It was before sunrise. It's safe to say its around 4 or 5AM.

- **2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”**
  - So this is where it begins to get really interesting. Mary arrives, and she makes an assumption: that the body has been stolen.
  - You know the assumption she does not make: resurrection.
    - She didn’t stand there in awe and be like “Wow Jesus has risen!”.
    - What does she do- back at verse 2 it says she ran to Simon Peter & the other disciple and says that Jesus’ body is gone. She panics. She is worried. She is concerned. She is confused.
  
- **3 So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. 4 Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.**
  - (Now for those of you who do not know, that other disciple that outran Peter he is describing is himself- John the author.
    - He is just taking the humble road and not openly saying that he outran Peter.
  
- **5 And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;**
  - Here's the big question- What exactly did he believe?
  - That’s the big theological question that commentators struggle with
  - I don’t think it’s clear that he believed that Jesus had risen from the dead yet. He believed something unusual happened here. Look at their response: Look at verse 9
  
- 9 for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes.**
  
- Now it’s important to remember here:
  - Peter and John- these two guys were on the inner circle with Jesus.



- As we see in Luke 24 the disciples wanted a Messiah that would restore Israel back to its original greatness. And not be under oppression.
  - But instead what they got was a crucified Messiah.
  - The Jewish Leaders wanted a Messiah that would affirm their self righteous actions and attitudes and instead they got a Messiah who called them “hypocrites”.
  - And they wanted him killed.
  - **So what are your preconceived ideas about Jesus that are wrong?**

I was listening to a Podcast a few weeks ago. And it was really interesting. And sad at the same time- I’ll explain why:

- They explained how there was a poll of 3,000 Americans with different religious views.
  - And the big takeaway they came out with was that Buddah, Muhammed, Jesus, and several other religious God’s all lead to heaven- which we call Universalism.
  - **Can I just tell you that the Resurrection of Jesus totally blows that out of the water.** The empty tomb does not allow that.
    - All other religions say you must “work your way up the ladder in order to be right with God.” You must earn your way.
      - Where this is so counter to what we believe as Christians
      - Jesus came down to earth in pursuit of us- knowing that we fall short of the glory of God like it says in Romans 3:23
      - And so instead of us taking the punishment for our sin, Jesus took our place for us. And he is simply saying will you surrender your life & trust me as your Lord and Savior.
- And so going back to preconceived ideas about Jesus: I think a big one that many people in the world embrace is: Jesus was just a good moral teacher.
  - CS Lewis said it best while responding to a claim that: “Jesus is a great moral teacher, but don’t accept his claim to be God.”
  - **He says:** “That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with a man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up and call him a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about him being a great human teacher. He has not

left that option open to us. He did not intend to.”

- And Church, you want to know what, we know that Jesus is who He says he is:
  - **Why: Because the tomb was empty! He proved it through his resurrection**
  - **He DID what he said what He was going to do.**

Let’s look at verses 11-18

**11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.**

Really quickly- Do you remember who Mary Magdalene was?

- This is a woman who had 7 demons, she was homeless, she was a beggar, eating scraps, insane, out of her mind, outcast, lonely.
  - And then she meets Jesus. And she is completely and totally transformed.
  - And here, She clings to him and Jesus says “hey don't touch me.”
    - He wasn’t saying that out of being rude to her.
    - He was saying Mary, it’s time to let go because I have something really important for you to do: **Go tell the others.**
- For me this is one of the greatest proofs of the resurrection of Jesus and I will explain why. Put it in its historical context:
  - If you want to persuade people that Jesus has resurrected, you do not make a woman the first evangelist. Because in the first century AD the testimony of women was essentially worthless.
    - But what does Jesus do? He takes this woman who was a complete outsider and says

- “Boy are you going to have honor, I am going to bestow dignity upon you, you are going to be the 1st evangelist. Go tell the others what you have seen. And that’s what she does.
  - What an honor for Mary
  - This is how Jesus is. He is not what you expect. He is much much better.
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- And from what we see from all of this is there’s so much here to take in.
    - What’s your view of the scriptures. Do you understand that faith is rational?
    - There are so many accounts here that should not be, that do not make sense-
      - UNLESS they really happened this way.
      - Further proof that Jesus did what he said what he was going to do.
    - We see the tomb was empty, they could not produce a body,
      - JESUS cannot be put alongside Buddah, Muhammed & all the other so called gods. **It’s not even close.**

In **Revelation 3:20** Jesus is addressing a certain Church and says

**“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.**

- This is the revealing of who Jesus is. Jesus is polite. He knocks.
  - He doesn’t kick the door down.
  - But Church, here’s the thing, he is not going to knock forever.

**Revelation 19:15** says **“From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of the God almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.”**

**My question to you is:**

**How do you view Jesus? Do you worship Him as the King of kings? The Lord of lords..Do you bow before His throne. Or do you have any misguided preconceived ideas on who He is?**

- We live in really interesting times right now where we don’t have the freedom to go out and do things we used to do.
  - Some of us can’t go to our jobs, we all can’t gather and worship corporately in one space, we can’t take our kids to the playgrounds. And so on..

- I believe that God is calling us to be STILL. God is stripping us of our busy schedules, and He wants us to focus on Him
- Church I truly believe that HE is being gracious and patient to those who may not know him. And I believe He is being patient and gracious to His Church- that he is calling His Church to repentance.
- You may be sitting there saying what do we need to repent of
  - We need to repent of Consumer Christianity
    - Leaving Church on a Sunday saying “eh worship and the sermon was ok, their kids program was ok. Lets try another church. Or this person hurt my feelings, instead of me trying to reconcile like we are commanded to do, we will go elsewhere.”
  - Repenting of the busy schedules we have
    - Alenna and I have talked about how amazing it has been that God has forced us to slow down. And focus on what matters.
  - We need to repent of our comforts. The things that we seek over God.
  - Repent of fixing our eyes on worthless idols. And not fixing our eyes on Him.
- And so Church, let’s put away our preconceived ideas of Jesus and let's worship Him as Lord & King. Which he deserves!

Immerse yourself in the scriptures

Immerse yourself in prayer

Surrender every area of your life

Take up your cross daily

And let’s look to God and WORSHIP Him as LORD & KING!

- Just an encouragement for you all:
  - As of right now we are still gathering over Zoom for prayer at 10AM & 6PM.
  - Pastor Bill is continuing to do a Bible Study at 12PM through 1 Timothy and also 4PM in the book of Ephesians. I just want to encourage you all to continue pressing in.

Let’s just take the rest of this time to pray in response to what God is teaching us through His word. And then we will have Mallory lead us into our last song of worship.