

## WE ARE KINGDOM PEOPLE

Mark 14:53-65

### I. WHO IS THIS MAN?

1. Popular healer, feeder, prophet, miracle-worker, and political messiah?
2. Blasphemer, law-breaker, demon-possessed, political trouble-maker?
3. Three direct questions:
  - Mk 4—“Who is this? Even the wind and waves obey Him!”
  - Mt 11—John the Baptist—“Are you the Expected One?”
  - Jn 10—the Jews—“Tell us plainly—are you the Christ?”
4. Jesus answers clearly

**Quote Mark 14:53-65—Jesus before High Priest and Sanhedrin**

### II. WHAT IS THE CHRIST?

1. Christ = “anointed deliverer”—had several connotations for Jews
  - **Prophet**—promise of a prophet like Moses (**Dt 18**)
  - **Priest**—unending priesthood of Melchizedek (**Gen 14**)
  - **King**—Son of David (**II Sam 7 and 23**)
2. Jesus embodied all 3 offices—and proclaims them divine (Son of Man)
3. Jesus clearly asserts His divinity
  - **“I Am”**—only Mark—uses the Divine formula in this situation!
  - All Synoptics—hearers said His answer was blasphemous
4. Fuller implication of ‘I AM’
  - **I AM**—WHO—God—One with the Father—Son of God—the Divine One
  - **I AM**—WHAT—Son of Man—the Christ—coming like a King
  - **I AM**—WHERE—at the right hand of power—with the Father—with kingly power
5. Jesus combined ‘**Christ**’ with ‘**Son of Man**’—the imagery of Daniel—the divine coming King

**Dan 7:13-14**—*I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a **Son of Man** was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to Him was given **dominion, glory and a kingdom** that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and **His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.***

6. Jesus Christ as King—prophesied

## Isaiah 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.***

## Luke 1:30-33

*But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. **The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.**”*

5. Kingship—later affirmed

## I Tim 6:13-16

*I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed **and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords**, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.*

## III. WHERE IS THE CHRIST?

### A. AT THE SEAT OF POWER—HIGH AND MIGHTY

1. Mark 14—like the picture in Daniel 7

- At the right hand of the Mighty One
- Coming on the clouds of heaven

2. Same as in Mark 13—coming on clouds with great power and glory

### B. AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD—later affirmed

- Acts 2:32-35
- Eph 1:20
- 1 Pe.3:22
- Heb 10:12
- Seen by Stephen—Acts 7:55

## IV. WHAT KIND OF KING?

1. Pilate's question: “Are you king of the Jews?” [**Jn 18:33**]

2. Jesus' answer

**Jn 18:36-7—My kingdom is not of this world.** If My kingdom were of this world, then my servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm . . . You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.

### **Jesus Christ is King of the True, Universal, Cosmic Kingdom of God**

#### **V. EVIDENCE FROM JESUS' MINISTRY—NOT JUST KING OF THE JEWS**

1. Grew up and first ministered in “Galilee of the Gentiles”

**Mt 3:15-16—**Land of Zebulon and land of Naphtali, way to the sea along the Jordan; Galilee of the Gentiles: the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

2. His announcement in Nazareth (using Isaiah 61 as His mission statement)

- Many widows in Israel—but Elijah went to the widow of Zarephath in Sidon
- Many lepers in Israel—but Elisha cleansed Naaman the Syrian

3. His first “I AM” revelation—as the Christ—was to the Samaritan woman

4. His first two commissions of disciples—eventually broadened the tent

- First time—of the Twelve—only to the Jews—Mt 10 and Lk 9
- Second time—of the Seventy—no restrictions—Lk 10

5. His willingness to help the Syrophenecian woman—**Mk 7**

6. His only two commendations for ‘great faith’ in Matthew—were to non-Jews

- The centurion who asked Jesus to heal his slave—**Mt 8**
- The Syrophenecian woman—**Mt 15**

7. Jesus prevented James and John from calling fire from heaven on Samaritans—**Lk 9**

8. Jesus has other sheep—**Jn 10**

**Jn 10:16—**I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice and they will become one flock with one shepherd.

9. To John: do not prevent others from driving out demons in my name—**Mk 9**

**Mk 9:39-40—**Do not stop them, Jesus said. No one can perform a miracle in my name and in the next moment say anything bad about me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.

10. Great commission—in **Mark 16**

Go into **all the world** and preach the good news to **all creation**.

## VI. IMPLICATIONS FOR KINGDOM PEOPLE

1. **No division** in God's kingdom not by national, cultural, racial or political lines
  - Church flourishing in Cuba, Russia, Vietnam, and China
    - Communist of former communist nations
    - One student still in Communist Party
2. **Unity of fellowship** and faith that crosses language and cultural barriers
  - Many of the same hymns—"Shall We Gather at the River?"—in Russia
  - The Doxology—in China
  - Reciting the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer—in China and Russia
3. **Common denominator**—most obvious visible/audible one: the Bible—common message and texts
4. **People who are different** from us—with whom we differ theologically/ecclesiologically
  - Assembly of God, Word of Life, Presbyterian, and CMA—in Vietnam
  - Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian backgrounds in China
5. **Sacrifice**—Following Christ still means sacrifice in many settings
  - Vietnamese refugees—saved abroad—who returned to minister to their own—Man and Tran
6. **Universal power of God's** message to convert anywhere
  - Joseph (Vietnam) converted in Russia—returned to Vietnam to minister
7. **Great Commission** is multi-directional
  - Korean missionaries to South America (student at SWBTS)
  - Cubans looking forward to doing missions
8. Importance of **praying** for and **working with officials** within boundaries—as much as possible
  - Hanoi Bible College
9. Importance of **showing respect for other nations**—though disagreeing with their politics
  - Suffering of Vietnamese under colonial oppression—puts history into perspective
  - Joseph's father was NVA soldier
10. Importance of **empowering** Christians in their **own culture**/language/setting
11. **Enormous opportunity** and amount of work to train Christians globally

**Rev 21**—*22 I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. 25 In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; 26 and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; 27 and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Rev 22*—*1 Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God*

*and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; 4 they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. 5 And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.*