

August Teaching Theme: What is the Gospel?

讲员 Speaker: Pastor William Horne

题目 Topic: “The King Jesus Gospel”

经文 Scripture: Isaiah 52:7-10 (Along with a Trace through the Biblical Narrative)

Monthly Idea: This month’s theme is “the Gospel” and its implications. The Gospel of Jesus the Christ is a royal announcement that Jesus is King and his Upside-Down Kingdom will reign forever, thus we must give our allegiance to King Jesus. Those who give their allegiance to King Jesus are given the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate - a downpayment of our inheritance in the Kingdom. The Spirit applies *the benefits of the gospel* to those who respond with *allegiance*!

This week we kick off the series talking about the Gospel proper - that Jesus is King (Lord). From this place, we will examine the benefits or implications of the Gospel in the following weeks. To understand the Gospel well we must understand the following:

- (1) The word “Gospel” in its Biblical/Historical context is always connected to a royal announcement of a new rule.
- (2) The word “faith/belief” (*Greek: pistis*) is best understood on the macro level with the English word “allegiance.” We are called to give our exclusive allegiance to King Jesus, characterized by deep trust and loyalty. From this place, we will seek to live by the ethics of the upside-down Kingdom.
- (3) Jesus acted as both the messenger of this Gospel and the King of the Upside-Down Kingdom of God’s reign. God’s reign is characterized by radically enemy love, generosity, justice, peace, and barrier-breaking reconciliation. Jesus’ life and teaching exemplified these Kingdom ethics, in which we should follow.
- (4) From the Gospel proper (Jesus is King), we can begin to talk about the many, multifaceted benefits of the Gospel that the Holy Spirit applies to the lives of those who give their allegiance to King Jesus. (e.g. justification, sanctification, glorification, adoption, reconciliation, ransom/redemption, freedom, empowered to be on mission, etc.)

Resources:

Bible Project Video: [The Gospel of the Kingdom](#) (English) (5:48)

Bible Project Video: [The Gospel of the Kingdom](#) (Chinese) (4:22)

[Will’s Sermon Manuscript](#)

[Will’s PPT File](#)

Important Notes (from Pastor Will):

- Biblical “faith” is an exclusive “allegiance” characterized by deep loyalty and trust.
- Interestingly, the Roman Empire used similar propaganda of “allegiance” that we see from many nation-states today, making the Gospel message of the early church a radical

claim. Caesar was given titles like “Savior” and “Lord,” and he demanded total allegiance and trust in the Roman Empire and its systems. Thus, to proclaim the Gospel Message, that “Jesus is Lord,” would have to entail at some level that “Caesar is Not.” You can’t be “allegiant” to both King Caesar and King Jesus - you must choose your loyalties. We must take a similar posture with nation-states today and other entities demanding our allegiance today.

Discussion Questions:

- (1) When did you first hear about Jesus and what about this news of Jesus drew you in?
- (2) How does the idea of the Gospel as a Royal Announcement help you better understand the Gospel? Similarly, how does the idea of “allegiance” help you better understand the nature of Biblical faith?
- (3) Jesus announced that God’s reign & Kingdom was not as anyone expected. He announced a Kingdom that was an Upside-Down Kingdom - a reversal of the ways of the kingdoms of the world. What are some of the things Jesus said/did that were a reversal of the kingdoms of the world?
 - a. Examples: Sacrificially loving Enemies; Truth-Telling (Yes be Yes, No be No); Breaking Social Hierarchies; Hospitality to Strangers & those who won’t bring you benefits; Protection of poor, immigrants, women; Radical generosity; Non-Violence; etc.
- (4) Read John 12:12-33 together. What is Jesus doing for others in this passage? Jesus calls his followers to do what he does. In what ways specifically can you suffer alongside others or serve and love others? What action can you partake in to live by the way of the Upside-Down Kingdom?
 - a. Jesus’ suffering was the way God’s power and love were shown to the world. The cross shows us that God’s ultimate response to human death and suffering was love, to die alongside us and for us, and to overcome death with his resurrection life. This is Jesus’ upside-down Kingdom.
- (5) Read Isaiah 52:7-53:12 together. What stands out to you and what observations do you make? How would you summarize the passage? What does it mean to you that God is present in suffering?
 - a. This passage proclaims that God himself is coming to rescue his people. This is good news, but it will happen in a surprising way. God’s appointed one, the Messiah, will enter into the suffering and death of our world. There’s a lot of suffering and pain going on in our world right now, but God enters into our suffering. He experiences it personally and is present with us and all those who suffer.
- (6) **Memorization Tool:** What is the Gospel? How do we respond to the Gospel? (We will continue building on this each week)
 - a. The Gospel of Jesus the Christ is a royal announcement that Jesus is King and his Upside-Down Kingdom will reign forever.
 - b. We are called to respond by giving our allegiance (inclusive of faith, loyalty, trust) to King Jesus.

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin):

耶稣君王福音，什么是福音

8/2/20. rev Will Horne

“那报佳音，传平安，报好信，传救恩的，对锡安说：你的神作王了！这人的脚登山何等佳美！听啊，你守望之人的声音，他们扬起声来，一同歌唱；因为耶和华归回锡安的时候，他们必亲眼看见。耶路撒冷的荒场啊，要发起欢声，一同歌唱；因为耶和华安慰了他的百姓，救赎了耶路撒冷。耶和华在万国眼前露出圣臂；地极的人都看见我们神的救恩了。”

以赛亚书 52:7-10 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/isa.52.7-10.cunpss-神>

你认为什么是福音？你是否被传的是完整的福音？

Claim allegiance to kingdom

耶稣是君王，永远效忠

1, 福音是神的宣告

巴比伦时人觉是不是神弃绝他们只。赛说犹太民族自己造成的。但这段圣经说好消息，神会重新回到这城带来正义。福音是皇家的宣告，圣经都是这样形容福音一好消息。所罗门王做王是，以赛亚曾预言好消息。耶稣有一天做王，等等。

2, 信心是效忠，

Faith是信心翻作。信心最重要的字之一。弗2：8。“你们得救是本乎恩，也因着信；这并不是出于自己，乃是神所赐的；也不是出于行为，免得有人自夸。”

以弗所书 2:8-9 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/eph.2.8-9.cunpss-神>

因信称义。不因行律法，信心原文含音现在已失去，现代人认为信心象坚持到底的意思，而不是对信的对象依赖。似乎是积极想法。似乎信圣诞老人能得礼物的意思。中国共产党要人信党能救中国似乎有点信心的意思但错误的对象。真信一定是真诚的唯一的。不能有第三者而称忠心。圣经中信心如是如此，罗马偷了信心的真义，要人忠心罗马。当时称耶稣是主就是罗马王不是。皇家公告，称耶稣为王。弗2:8中信就是忠心效忠的意思。

加2:16“既知道人称义不是因行律法，乃是因信耶稣基督，连我们也信了基督耶稣，使我们因信基督称义，不因行律法称义；因为凡有血气的，没有一人因行律法称义。”

加拉太书 2:16 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/gal.2.16.cunpss-神>

3, 基督君王与逆转的国度

可，天国近了，你们当悔改，得福音。

耶稣说好消息，和人的思想不一样，耶稣说神国最大的是软弱的，贫穷的。这个颠倒的国度。祂不是传信者而祂就是好消息，祂就是神。国度的君王。祂医治饶罪。这好息使当时的社会颠倒，犹太领袖要害祂。祂看到全人类违背上帝。如何让神再掌权？需要死在十字架上的路。祂战胜世界因为复活了，好消息就是耶稣君王掌权正式开始。效忠祂，悔改信福音耶稣

4, 福言的内含,

效忠的人得福音好处, 神国的子民, 罪洗净, 不再做罪的奴隶, 成圣了, 心意更新, 成为神的儿女, 和神和好, 同享荣耀的新天新地, 差派去传福音(话语和行为上) 罗10:14-15 “然而, 人未曾信他, 怎能求他呢? 未曾听见他, 怎能信他呢? 没有传道的, 怎能听见呢? 若没有奉差遣, 怎能传道呢? 如经上所记: 「报福音、传喜信的人, 他们的脚踪何等佳美!」”

罗马书 10:14-15 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/rom.10.14-15.cunpss-神>

(笔者)

效忠: 是否有决定, 行动意思

耶稣是君王, 要向祂效忠。

什么是信耶稣? 相信+传福音。这是你接受福音时所理解的吗? 再思想“你若口里认耶稣为主, 心里信 神叫他从死里复活, 就必得救。”

罗马书 10:9 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/rom.10.9.cunpss-神>

“信就是所望之事的实底, 是未见之事的的确据。古人在这信上得了美好的证据。我们因着信, 就知道诸世界是借 神的话造成的; 这样, 所看见的, 并不是从显然之物造出来的。”

希伯来书 11:1-3 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/heb.11.1-3.cunpss-神>

“只是你们要行道, 不要单单听道, 自己欺哄自己。”

雅各书 1:22 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/jas.1.22.cunpss-神>

“我的弟兄们, 若有人说自己有信心, 却没有行为, 有什么益处呢? 这信心能救他吗?”

必有人说: 「你有信心, 我有行为; 你将你没有行为的信心指给我看, 我便借着我的行为, 将我的信心指给你看。」你信 神只有一位, 你信的不错; 鬼魔也信, 却是战惊。虚浮的人哪, 你愿意知道没有行为的信心是死的吗? 我们的祖宗亚伯拉罕把他儿子以撒献在坛上, 岂不是因行为称义吗? 可见, 信心是与他的行为并行, 而且信心因着行为才得成全。这就应验经上所说: 「亚伯拉罕信 神, 这就算为他的义。」他又得称为 神的朋友。这样看来, 人称义是因着行为, 不是单因着信。妓女喇合接待使者, 又放他们从别的路上出去, 不也是一样因行为称义吗? 身体没有灵魂是死的, 信心没有行为也是死的。”

雅各书 2:14, 18-26 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/jas.2.14,18-26.cunpss-神>