

Persevere for Christ the King



SJSM Sermon | 22-23 Nov 2025

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The Feast of Christ the King: Last Sunday before Advent



Four Accounts of Jesus as King

- A. Visit of the Magi:** Resulted in Herod's Massacre of the Innocents (Matt 2:1-18)
- B. Feeding of the 5,000:** The crowds wanted to forcefully make Jesus King, but He withdrew from them. (John 6:1-15)
- C. Final Entry into Jerusalem:** "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Luke 19:28-40). Jesus' kingship is apparent.
- D. Trial before Pontius Pilate and the Crucifixion:** "King of the Jews" (John 18:36-19:22). Jesus revealed the Kingdom but did not side-step the cross to grasp the crown.

Teaching about **Jesus' Kingdom (1)**

- It is not a physical domain, human organization, political entity or nation.
- Luke 17:21 “...the kingdom of God is **in the midst of you**” means:
 - “**in you**” – **an inner reality** of souls living in submission to Jesus
 - “**among you**” – **relationships** inspired and lived in His presence

Teaching about **Jesus' Kingdom (2)**

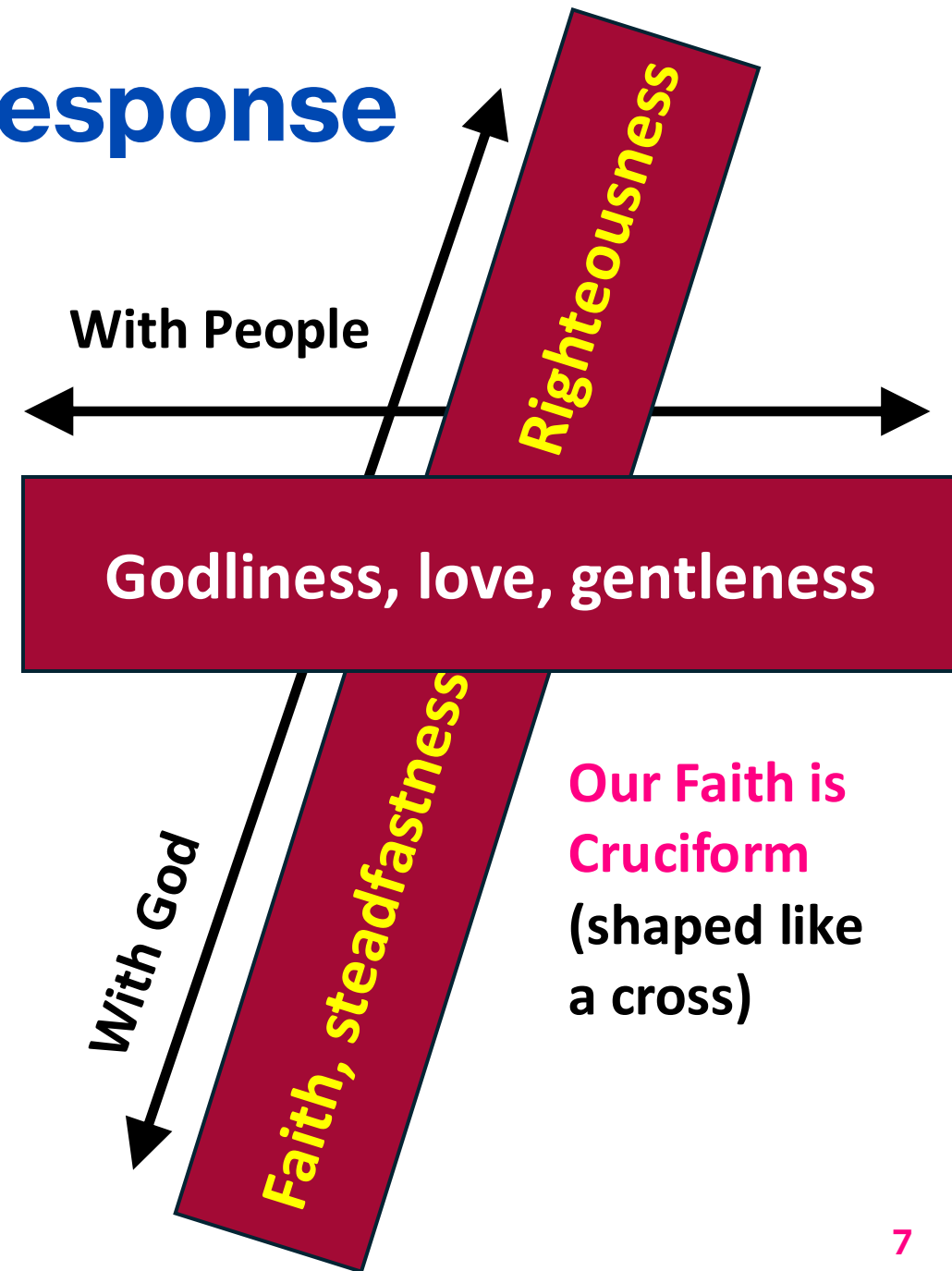
- It is not of this world:
 - His mission is not to avoid death, but to **die and rise above death.**
 - His citizens are not called to defend Him, but to **emulate His sacrificial life** (Matt 16:24 “take up his cross and follow me”).

Teaching about **Jesus' Kingdom (3)**

- **Already here** – **Through his First Coming** (His life, teaching, miracles, death, resurrection and ascension)
- **Growing** – **Through the work of the Holy Spirit through us his disciples** (Acts 1:8 “be my witnesses”)
- **Not yet fully consummated** – **Until his Second Coming** (Matt 25 – Parable of the Ten Virgins, Parable of the Talents and the Final Judgment between the sheep and the goats; Rev 1:7 – “Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him...”)

Perseverance: Our only response (1 Tim 6:11-14)

- “As for you, O man of God” (6:11) – Our God-given identity.
- “flee these things” (6:11) – Greed and false teachings (6:6-10)
- “Pursue righteousness and godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness” (6:11) – Growing in a **cruciform faith**
- “Fight the good fight of the faith... take hold of the eternal life” (6:12) – Don’t take short cuts, give up or settle for less.



Why **persevere**? Because our Coming King **deserves it** (1 Tim 6:14-16)

- “the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ... at the proper time” is **for sure**.
- “**The Only Sovereign**” – God alone decides the timing and manner of Christ’s First and Second Coming. There is **no point in speculating**.
- “**King of kings and Lord of lords**” – Absolute dominion over all heavenly and earthly powers. There is **no competition**.
- “**Alone is immortal, dwells in unapproachable light, no one has ever seen or can see**” – Absolutely different from anything earthly or human. The very definition of “Holy”. Inspires **awe**.