



WEIRD: cause normal isn't working.

SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 7:12-13; Matthew 21:1-11

Last week... Israel wanted a king.

When they looked around at the people around them, they wanted what they had, a king. And even though this wasn't God's plan or choice, He finally relents and lets them have a king.

1 Samuel 8:6-7

⁶But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord. ⁷And the Lord told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, **but they have rejected me as their king.**

Even though God gives them what they want, it was God's plan that He would be their king with a prophet as His spokesman.

Instead, Saul becomes the first king of Israel. But it isn't long before Saul disobeys God and is rejected as king.

1 Samuel 15:10-11a

¹⁰Then the word of the Lord came to Samuel: ¹¹"I regret that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions."

God's judgement of Saul is swift and sure.

There is no substitute for obedience. There is no gift greater than service. There are no spoils of war more valuable than humility.

David is then anointed as the new king of Israel.

1 Samuel 16:12

¹²So (*Jesse*) sent for (*David*) and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

Eventually David takes over as king of Israel. He is not perfect. He makes some major mistakes, but he continues to follow God throughout his life. Even when he makes mistakes, he repents and turns back to God.

And because of that, because he was a "man after God's own heart" God gives David this promise...

2 Samuel 7:12-13

¹²When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

Let's pick up this idea in the NT, near the end of Jesus ministry. Just before the Last Supper Jesus sends his disciples into Jerusalem to prepare for his entry into the city.

Matthew 21:1-3

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to

them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

Jesus, who was born into the family tree of David, takes on some of the characteristics of king in Israel. According to Jewish law the state could sequester animals from the general public for its own use.

Jesus, as David's descendant and Messiah, certainly had this right. According to the OT, oxen, donkeys and colts that had never been ridden were sometimes used for sacred purposes.

It would be highly unusual for someone in Jesus' day to ask someone they didn't know to borrow their animal. An animal was part of their wealth and livelihood. It wasn't a recreational vehicle. It wasn't like borrowing someone's motorcycle.

But that's what Jesus did.

Jesus indicates two things by asking his disciples to go get these animals for him. First, he was claiming his right as the Messiah, and second, he is claiming his right as king.

Matthew 21:4-5

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵"Say to Daughter Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

Matthew quotes from the prophet Zechariah who predicts the messiah with astounding clarity. This passage from Zechariah, was interpreted by many

rabbis as Messianic. Matthew indicates that this triumphal entry into Jerusalem fulfills OT prophecy, and also indicates that although Jesus is the Messiah predicted by the prophets, he is not the Messiah expected by the people.

They were looking for the king to ride into Jerusalem on a war horse.

What Isaiah promised was a Prince of Peace on a donkey – a symbol of kings and of peace.

Matthew 21:6-11

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them.

⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

As Jesus climbs the Mt. of Olives, the people are prepared to proclaim him Messiah and King. This is the second time such a thing has happened. A year before, when Jesus had fed the 5,000 a crowd was ready to make him king by force.

They wanted a Messiah very badly. And this man, with his ability to perform such miracles, is their primary candidate.

Some in the crowd laid their garments on the ground. Others cut palm branches from the trees in the adjacent fields and laid them down for the colt to walk on. Both of these are political and regal gestures. In other words, the crowds welcome Jesus as King in the Holy City of Jerusalem.

The crowd breaks into jubilant shouts which echo across the city.

They shout, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Remember what God had promised David?

2 Samuel 7:12-13

¹²When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

Jesus is the king and Messiah predicted by God and by the OT prophets, but he is not the Messiah expected by the people.

WEIRD:

What the people expected was typical. It was the same thing they had been wanting since they first rejected God as their king. They wanted to be like those around them. They wanted the protection of a king. They wanted someone to wage war against the Romans and take control back from Caesar.

God sends a descendant of David, just like he said he would. A shepherd king. One who would offer peace not a sword.

What does this mean for us today?

First,

JESUS IS KING.

God fulfills his promise to David that one of his ancestors would be king forever. About Jesus the Hebrew writes says...

Hebrews 7:17

¹⁷For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

Melchizedek was the king of Salem. He was the one to whom Abraham gave a tenth of all he owned.

Hebrews 7:1-3

¹This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, ²and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, the name Melchizedek means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace." ³Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

Jesus is priest and king in the order of Melchizedek. King of righteousness. King of Salem. King of peace.

Second...

WE ARE PART OF HIS KINGDOM.

We are not just a religion. We are not even just a church. We are part of God's kingdom.

1 Peter 2:9-10

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

We are a part of God's kingdom. Not just a church. Not just an ideology, God says we are part of his kingdom.

1 Peter 2:9

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession

God has offered for us to be a part of his kingdom, through Jesus our king.

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Small Group Questions.

1. What is your favorite online service? What is the funniest, or best thing you have ever had delivered to your house?
2. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-18 and 1 Samuel 15:10-11a. What are the qualifications of a king that is set forth by God? Did Saul reflect those qualities (maybe have people give some examples from the past couple of weeks). What would have been different if the people would have just served and followed God?
3. David is described as "A man after God's own heart". What do you think David's life looked like? How can we be a people after God's own heart?
4. Read 1 Peter 2: 9-10 - What does this mean to you, understanding that you are called a "royal priesthood" and that you are a part of the Kingdom of God? Do you think this will change how you think about your faith and how you live it out?
5. Jesus fulfills the promises made to David about a King coming from his ancestry, and we are apart of the kingdom, does this change anything about our church?