

Title: THE REIGN OF CHRIST, JOHN 18:33-37  
(Chatham, NJ; 11/25/12, AM) [Pc – Topical]

Theme: Jesus is the king of an unshakable kingdom that we will receive if we remain faithful.

Purpose: To affirm the rule of Christ and to remind us what we need to do to be faithful.

Introduction:

1. Even in the face of his death Jesus affirms to Pilate that he is a king.
2. After his resurrection and ascension, the apostles affirmed that Jesus had been enthroned as king, Ephesians 1:20-23.
3. Christians live with that always in mind.

## I. Jesus Was, Is, and Always Will Be on the Throne, Hebrews 13:8.

### A. Yesterday

1. Psalm 22:28 – Kingship belongs to the Lord
2. Psalm 93:1-2, his rule has always been
3. Psalm 110:1-2, Christ will rule with a mighty scepter

### B. Today

1. Jesus ascended to the right hand of God, 1 Peter 3:22
2. He has all authority, Mt. 28:18

### C. Forever

1. His kingdom is unshakable, Hebrews 12:28
2. Every knee shall bow, Phil. 2:10
3. Every eye shall see him, Rev. 1:7

## II. Questions The Kingdom Confronts Today

### A. How can religion be merely a private affair when Christ is King over all?

1. Answer: it can't
2. Peter and John answered those who tried to stop them – Acts 4:18-20
3. In some Islamic countries it is punishable by death to convert to Christianity
4. Even in our own country some prefer to keep God away (Democrats sought to expunge God from their platform this year.)
5. Such contempt for the King of the Universe will not go unpunished

### B. How do we pray "Thy Kingdom Come"?

1. Answer: we pray that it will come to the hearts and minds of more and more
2. Heb. 2:8 – "At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him."
3. Only because people continue to rebel do we see this
4. Our prayer is that their eyes will be opened

### C. How do we bear witness to this truth?

1. Answer: we walk in the light; we love one another; we speak of our faith
2. Jesus is Lord (1 Peter 3:15-16, "In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.")
3. The Kingdom spreads person to person, relative to relative, friend to friend, neighbor to neighbor, and co-worker to co-worker

## III. What Must We Continue to Do, Hebrews 13:9-16 (Receiving an Unshakable Kingdom)

### A. Avoid strange teachings and be strengthened by grace, 9

1. Alternative views of who is king must be rejected
  2. Grace is mediated through Christ, not by ritual foods and ceremonies of any religion
  3. In other words, we experience God only by faith in Jesus Christ; any other experience is a false one
- B. Offer sacrifices of Praise
1. The Church is a holy nation that praises God, 1 Peter 2:9
  2. Our first duty is to demonstrate our allegiance to the king by means of praise
  3. Worship is more than a weekly duty, it is a declaration that "Jesus is Lord"
- C. Do Good and Share with Others, 16
1. God is pleased when we do this
  2. These are fragrant offerings to God, Phil. 4:18
  3. Do good to all men, Gal. 6:10

Conclusion:

1. Philippians 4:8 sums up our service to God.
2. Jesus is Lord, the King of the Universe.
3. To accept that is to accept the reality inherent in all creation.
4. I is visible in the church, his body on earth; this is us.
5. Believe it; accept it; be renewed by it; live it.