

SERMON TEXT: Matthew 27:27 – 29 – (NIV)

Vs. 27 - Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium (Court House/ Governor's Hall / Judgment Hall) and gathered the whole company (cohort – 600 men) of soldiers around him.

Vs. 28 - They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,

Vs. 29 - and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "**Hail, king of the Jews!**" they said.

GREETING: Grace and peace to you from Him Who Is, and Who Was, and Who Is to come!

When important world leaders, dignitaries, and presidents travel from place to place, they often have very ostentatious motorcades, that is, multiple cars for security and other important figureheads.

When traveling overseas the President of the United States flies in Air Force One.

While living in Zambia I had the opportunity to witness first hand a motorcade for the President.

Leading the way were Police Motorcycles, weaving back and forth to clear the way, followed by many black cars with windows that were tinted so dark that it was impossible to see who was inside, and then it was followed by more police motorcycles. What a sight to see!

When Jesus, the Creator and King of the universe came into the World, He was born of the Virgin Mary. Mary was not yet married to her fiancé Joseph. (Matt. 1:24-25; Luke 2:5)

The Virgin Mary gave birth in a stable and laid Jesus in a manger. (Luke 2:1-7)

(Not with fireworks or rockets and fanfare and lightning bolts),

On the eighth day of His life, Jesus was circumcised, just like all the other Jewish boys of the day. (Luke 2:21)

Then about at the age of 2, Joseph took Mary and the baby Jesus and fled to Egypt, because Herod wanted to kill the Baby Jesus, hence the slaughter of the innocents. (Matthew 2:1-12; 16)

Mary and Joseph and the Baby then returned to Nazareth where Jesus grew up in their home and was known as "The Carpenter's Son". (Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3; Luke 4:16)

We then see Jesus at the age of 12 in the Temple in Jerusalem where the everyone who heard Jesus were impressed with His knowledge of the Holy Writ. (Luke 2:41-47)

We then do not hear about Jesus again until we see Him at the River Jordan, where John the Baptist, a man dressed like a wild man (Camel's hair and ate locust and wild honey), cries out, as he points to Jesus, "**Behold the Lamb of God, Who taketh away the sin of the world!**" (Matt. 3:1-17; Mark 1:1-12; Luke 3:1-23)

Jesus then begins His public ministry with a group of disciples who were fishermen, and a tax collector and at one point during His public ministry Jesus states that He has no place to lay His head. (Mark 1:16-18; Mark 2:14, Luke 5:27; Matthew 8:20)

He is then attacked by the Pharisees, the Sadducees, Chief Priests and Teachers of the Law who are trying to trap Jesus in His words and find fault with Him. (Luke 22:2; John 5:18)

As the Prophet Isaiah writes in **Chapter 53:2-3**, "**There is no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him. He was despised and rejected by men, He was a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering.**" (NIV)

From a human point of view, why would anyone want to follow Jesus, much less call Him, MY KING?

Yet that is exactly what Jesus is!

Jesus is King of kings and Lord of Lords. (Rev. 17:14; Rev. 19:16; John 20:28)

When Pontius Pilate posted the sign over Jesus which read: “Jesus – The King of the Jews.” (Matthew 27:37; John 19:19) Pilate meant to be throwing it in the face of the Jews, yet Pontius Pilate was God’s unsuspecting tool to proclaim the Truth, of Who Jesus is – KING / Ruler.

When Pilate announced to the Jews who were gathered outside of his palace in Jerusalem, “Behold Your King.” It is recorded that they answered: “**We have No king but Caesar!**” (John 19:15 – NIV)
(Be careful what one asks for)

Jesus does not draw a crowd by His earthly wealth and earthy pomp.

Rather - **Jesus draws people to Himself by His tender mercy and love and compassion.**

Jesus did not look like a king as He was beaten and mocked and scourged.

He did not look like a king as He hung upon the cross.

He did not look like a king as His side was pierced and blood flowed out.

He did not look like a king as He was laid in the empty tomb, dead. By Joseph of Arimathea & Nicodemus. (John 19:38) {At the death of Jesus many holy people were raised to life and appeared to many people. Matt. 27:52-53}

Even when **Jesus rose from the dead**, He did not show Himself to those who rejected Him, yet we are told that there was an earthquake when the angel of the Lord rolled back the stone at the tomb. (Matt. 28:2)

And He peacefully ascended into heaven (Not with fireworks or rockets and fanfare and lightning bolts), after which the Angels announced. He will come again in glory, just as you have seen Him go. (Acts 1:9-11)

Unlike Christ’s first coming into the world as an infant lowly He will come in all power and might with all His Holy Ones. (I Thessalonians 3:13)

When Jesus Comes on the LAST DAY. We are told in **Revelation 1:7** (NIV) - That “**Every eye will see Him, even those who pierced HIM.**”

In **Philippians 2:10 – 11 – (NIV)** we are told: “**At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the Glory of God the Father.**”

Isaiah 45:23 – The Lord says through Isaiah, “**Before ME every Knee will bow; by ME every tongue will swear.**” (NIV)

On the Last Day, Judgment Day, when the Lord Jesus returns, every Knee will bow before the Lord Jesus.

The Unbelievers will kneel because they must, as though they were struck behind the knees with a staff.

The Unbelievers will kneel out of fear.

They will then hear the Words of Jesus, “**Depart from ME, you who are cursed into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.**” (Matthew 25:41 – NIV)

The Believers will kneel before the Lord Jesus because they WANT TO. The Believers will kneel because they believe and know that Jesus is Lord of Lords and King of kings.

To the believers the Lord Jesus will say, “**Come, you who are blessed by MY Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.**” (Matthew 25:34 - NIV)

Then we, together with all believers will enter heaven, where there will be no more sin, or pain, or sickness or sorrow or death. In heaven we will live forever with the Lord Jesus with our new glorified bodies (Philippians 3:20-21; Luke 24:36-43). We will live forever in heaven in AWE, saying, WOW! I did nothing to earn this, yet Jesus has given me heaven. (Isa. 64:6-7)

The First time Jesus came upon this earth, He appeared weak, but He was truly strong. He conquered Sin, death and the Devil for us.

On the Cross Jesus paid the price for the Sin of the World.

By His Glorious Resurrection on the third day, Jesus demonstrated that His payment for sin was acceptable before God the Father. (John 3:16-17; I John 2:1-2; Romans 3:21-24; I Peter 3:18; Mk. 16:6)

On the Last Day and forever, we will join together with all the Believers in heaven. Singing; **“Worthy is the Lamb, Who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”** (Rev. 5:12 - NIV)

In the Book of Revelation, the Lord God through His inspired writer, the Apostle John, gives us a beautiful picture of Jesus when He comes on the Last Day. Allow me to read these wonderful words of our God and Savior.

Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV) – THE RIDER ON THE WHITE HORSE = **“I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF kings AND LORD OF lords.”**

In other words, we will say to Jesus forever,

Hail, King of The Jews!

AMEN

THEME: Who Is King In Your Heart & Life?