THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST

By Alex Sadat

The Kingship of Christ is central to the gospel message. Jesus is the legitimate King of the Jews. Throughout His life, He is portrayed in the gospels as the King that's come to save the people.

From Bethlehem to Calvary, He is the rightful sovereign. Even at the cross, a sign was hung above Him in three languages. Recorded in the gospel account of John are these words: "*And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that he said, I am King of the Jews.*" (John 19:19-21).

Notice how Pilate ignored their pleas -- they had wanted the sign to declare Jesus had said this without a legitimate claim to the throne. Pilate did not grant them this, and placed the sign above the man in which he had found no fault. Notice that when their supporters had a choice between Christ and Barabbas, when "*Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King?... (they declared) We have no king but Caesar*." (John19:15).

This was treason against the King of prophesy; from their reasoning, if He was not the true Son of David, then He was not the rightful King and, therefore, their conscience would be soothed. There's just one very big problem -- Jesus was no false prophet and His claim to kingship is legitimate.

The promise God made to David that his line would reign forever was not dependent upon the goodness of David's dynasty. God promised David an eternal dynasty in 2 Samuel 7:16. He told David, "*Thy throne shall be established for ever*." In 1 Kings 9:7, Solomon received the same assurance: "*I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel for ever, as I promised to David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man upon the throne of Israel.*"

The scriptures plainly declare that Jesus, our blessed Redeemer, reigns eternally at the right hand of the Father! Hebrews 10:11-14 makes it clear that our Lord is ruling now and into the future. With the eternal throne established, the Davidic promise kept, and the authority of His kingship set apart from earthly rulers. Jesus is "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORD." (Revelation 19:16).

Throughout the Bible, the legitimacy of Christ's claim is key to our salvation. Paul tells of God's fulfilment of the promise of salvation through and in Christ: "The blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith" (Galatians 3:14). The legitimacy of Jesus, rightful heir of the house of David, supports his role as the Messiah King!

His followers are subjects of a single Kingdom. The law of Christ supersedes all others and its constitution is the spirit-breathed Word of God! Its territory is world-wide and all who rule on earth are accountable to Him. In 1 Corinthians 15:28, Paul tells us that all things are subject to our Lord!

No other ruler has ever received such rightful praise. Even the multitudes of Heaven declare of Him, "*Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing*." (Revelation 5:12).

It is no wonder that Scripture reveals of our Kings majesty: "*And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever*." (Revelation 5:1).

Gods anointed King is reigning now! Make sure you are in the Kingdom and not in the fire (Rev. 20:15)!