

Introduction:

- Luke 19:28-38
- Worship = obedience, reverence, adoration, submission and service. To 'kiss the hand' like a dog licks and nuzzles the hand of his master.
- Theme - to establish the connection between authority and worship. There is a connection between the clarity of the authority of the Son of God and the extravagance with which we worship Him.
- The depth of the reality of our worship will be in proportion to our understanding or depth of revelation of His authority! Worship happens in response to God's revealing of Himself to us in which we experience His authority.
- My goal this morning is to shift this church out of a formality of worship and move us into a deeper expression of worship, deserving of the Son of God.

I. Revelation of The King

- A. If we are going to worship the King then we have to have revelation of what it means to have a king. Here is the average Americans revelation of a king: Generally speaking, we don't like kings. We had a king once, and we didn't really care for it. That mentality carries over into our worship. There are basically two reasons why we don't like kings:
1. The first is our memory. We see a king as a distant tyrant across the ocean who mistreats the people and "taxes their tea".
 2. The second reason is that we picture a king as a meaningless figurehead that is treated as a celebrity. A historical office held over from the past that no longer wields any real power.
 3. We totally reject the idea of a king as Americans then we turn around and pretend to sing songs about our King even though we have no idea what it means. We have no idea what it means to have a king yet we believe we know what it means to worship the King. Who are you trying to fool? IE. This is a 'formality' - we go through the motions without knowing why.
 4. Let me give us a few distinguishing features of what it means to have a king.
- B. What are the distinguishing features a King? What does it mean to have a King? I will give us four today. There are more but these are major ones.
1. The First distinguishing feature is: A king's authority is absolute. We have no idea what this means! It is absolute! We do not know what it's like to not back talk a leader, protest a leader, or challenge a leader. IE. Nehemiah 2:2 "**Long life the King!**" "**How can I help you?**" Maybe if we would approach our king a little more differently we might hear His ask us. How can I help?
 - a) A king is sovereign. Which means the king holds supreme power and authority. When the king speaks, he speaks with absolute authority. No one can countermand his orders, negate his pronouncements, set aside his decrees, or amend his statutes. His decrees are unchanging.

- b) Most kings today have no authority or very little authority. They are basically figureheads with celebrity like status. A long ways from what being a king meant in the past.
 - 2. The second distinguishing feature is: Kings are born. They are born into power. We see this in scripture as the sons of kings came to power. It is what makes a king different than a dictator.
 - a) Kings are not voted on or voted in, they are born into office.
 - b) A king is king by birthright. IE. We see this in Jesus (*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us*) and the declaration that He was of the lineage of David. Kingship is not conferred by men. IE. The wisemen did not come to confer on Jesus the kingship. They came to Worship the King. His authority was revealed to them. We do not make Jesus king, all we can do is acknowledge that He is king. His power is conferred upon him by his birth and family line. IE. If God is your Father, that is quite a family line!
 - 3. The third distinguishing feature is: A king is a head of state who inherits his position from his family.
 - a) The king is ruler for life unless he abdicates, and is usually revered as the sovereign leader of his nation.
 - b) The king sets the government. He embodies the government of his kingdom. Is 22:22, speaks of government upon His shoulders. Disciple is: person who put their faith in Jesus, Governs their life by Jesus teaching, and passionately pursues His mandate of making disciples.
 - c) The king personally owns everything and everyone in his domain. 1 Sam 8:13-18
 - 4. Forth distinguishing feature is: A king has subjects not citizens. IE. You do not owe Jesus anything! Your salvation is already paid for. But if that is your attitude you do not have a revelation of the absolute authority of Jesus towards you...motivate by love. The woman at crying upon and drying Jesus feet with her hair understood this!
 - a) The word that is translated citizen means a gathering of people under a common domain (Gr. polites). In many cases where the english word 'citizen' is used it does not even exist. The context would imply people associated with this person or territory.
 - b) As Americans we are citizens of this nation. We pledge allegiance to our flag because of the principles it stands for. But in a kingdom we would be subjects of and subjects to the king. Therefore we would pledge allegiance to the king. I am citizen of the USA, I am not subject to No King! But as a Christian I am first a subject of my King, Jesus, and then I am a citizen of the USA.
- C. What Does It Mean To Be Under a King?
- 1. What would it look like in our lives if we were to stop treating Jesus as simply a role model and start serving Him as our sovereign king? IE. WWJD bracket off.
 - a) We wouldn't be content with blending into the world around us. We would live as loyal subjects of a heavenly kingdom, giving our lives in service to Christ our King and we will *"walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God"* (Colossians 1:10).

- b) To live as a subject to a king means we can no longer cherish our Constitutional freedom to live however we choose? Luke 9:23: *"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."* Authority is a tough topic these days. IE: Kiss-flaming youth. Lynard Skynard-Free Bird. (Rebellion) Commodores - She's a brick house. (Yes, my parents were concerned!)
 - (1) Although we find evidence of authority all around us (speed limit signs, workplace rules, church building use policies, etc.) we often find creative ways to get around authority, or at least justify why WE can bend the rules and not conform to the established authority.
 - (2) The casual way this happens in our daily lives flows directly into the worship of the church. Worship has to do with our revelation of authority...not skirting it.
 - c) Do we celebrate liberty so well that we ignore God's desires for us? Many people live like they're above the Law of God.
 - d) Christ is not to be useful to us, just to get us out of hell. **He is King!** And we are His subjects as believers. This is a kingdom with a King, not a democracy and not a republic! He has absolute authority, He was born into this position, He govern and we are His subjects.
2. Because we are His subjects, citizens of a heavenly kingdom, we are pilgrims in a foreign land! The church is basically a colony of Christians in the earth who are of that heavenly kingdom. Ie. We do not have that, we just go to church.

II. Understanding Authority

- A. We must have a revelation of the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ! That is why this prayer of Paul's is so important: I pray...*"that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,"* (Ephesians 1:17, NKJV) vs. 18...that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened!
 - 1. The eyes of the understanding has to do with our ability to see! To see His authority. This becomes the danger of second and third generation Christianity...they have head knowledge but have not seen 'first hand' who their Savior really is.
 - 2. We cannot remain in just mere head knowledge if we want to worship the King in whole hearted devotion. Our eyes must be opened to encounter Him, to see Him.
- B. Wisdom and revelation have to do with seeing. The Holy Spirit must touch our eyes so that we see! Touch our understanding so that we perceive who He is. We must encounter Him to know His authority. When this happens it radically affects our lives and how we live them.
 - 1. We had a 90 pound chocolate Labrador when the boys we teens. He understood authority. Worship is: Obedience, reverence, adoration, submission. to kiss the hand (like a dog licking his masters hand.) IE. Kelly would give him the command get out of the kitchen, he would look at me with a look that asked, do I have to? In the morning he would lick my hand and lay on my feet as I read my Bible and prayed. (Master touch me!) CS Lewis - Beaver to Lucy, "Is He safe? Of course He is not safe! But He is good!" Catch the meaning of this!

2. When you know His authority it affects how you respond to Him. IE. John Paul Jackson always wanted to go into the throne room, until he did. Afterward he said it was the most terrifying experience of his life. Can you say fear of the Lord? So much authority in one place!!!

III. **When our eyes are opened to His authority we worship.**

- A. Cain and Able - Able had a revelation of God's authority so he brought his best and his worship was acceptable to God. Cain did not.
- B. Abraham was prepared to offer his son. He believed God would raise him. Offered the Ram to God.
- C. David knew who He was! Kills lions, bears, Goliaths, face Sauls, Philistines, etc.
 1. 2 Sam 6 brings the ark back the wrong way! A man dies because man's ways don't 'cut it'!
 2. David is troubled, (fear of the Lord) he prays and this time does it right! Puts the ark on the shoulders of the priests. It is 6 miles from Obed Edum house to the Jerusalem. Now David sacrifices a bull and a fatted calf every six paces. That is a total of 2,640 bulls (bulls are rarity because they are need to breed stock) and 2,640 fatted calves. That is extravagant worship! Then to put the ark in a tabernacle where singers sang and musicians played 24 hours a day 7 days a week...non stop! That is extravagant. Authority revealed = worship given! προσκηνεω
- D. Isaiah had this experience. IE. When Isaiah saw the Lord, high and lifted up. Is. 6. He did not say, "Where do you want me to go?" "What is in it for me?" He did not ask, "What is the salary? the benefits?" He signed a blank check with his life..." "Here am I, send me!" This response comes from one who has seen the King! He has seen the authority of the King of Kings!
 1. As citizens of a heavenly kingdom, we are to be ambassadors for Jesus. One of our primary tasks is carrying the king's message.
 - (1) Mt 28:18 All authority is given to Him and He has sent us who bear the name of Christ. Therefore go and make disciples!
 - (2) Because He is king, we have all been made Ambassadors of the Lord Jesus! We are the reps of His kingdom in the earth.
- E. He has authority over nature. Authority revealed = worship given! προσκηνεω "*When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then **the disciples worshiped** him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.*" (Matthew 14:32-33, NLT)
 1. when you have been saved you worship
 2. when you have been delivered you worship
 3. when you know who saved you worship! (Sense of indebtedness-your are not but you want to give back in gratitude)
 4. This is a revelation! 14:33 "*You really are the Son of God.*"
- F. Canaanite woman with a possessed daughter: A gentile crying out for mercy. The disciples want Jesus to send her away because she is wearing them out. But she knows Jesus (revelation). She knows how he loves (motivation of His authority). She appeals to his mercy. "*But she came and **worshiped him, pleading again, "Lord, help me!"***" (Matthew 15:25, NLT)

Jesus says I have not seen such great faith! Her daughter is healed! The centurion was the same: He was also a man of great faith recognized Jesus authority. Humility/submission said you do not even have to come to my house, just speak. God reveals himself to those who are in faith. Authority revealed = worship given! προσκηνεω Even demons believe and tremble (James 2:19).

G. The crucifixion:

1. A roman soldier. Hears Jesus asking that the Father forgive them with His last dying breath. Then commit His spirit into the hands of God. "When the Roman officer overseeing the execution saw what had happened, **he worshiped God** and said, "Surely this man was innocent."" (Luke 23:47, NLT) Three days later...
2. The women go to the tomb. "And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, **grasped his feet, and worshiped him.**" (Matthew 28:9, NLT)
 - a) They recognized Him as the one who defied death. You have to have authority to defy death. They recognized that! So they worship intensely. Obedience, reverence, adoration and submission!
 - b) Their response was humility to the Greater One! - bow and hold his feet.
3. The two men on the road to Emmaus encounter the One who overcame death, hell and grave! While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. **So they worshiped him** and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy." (Luke 24:49-52, NLT) Authority revealed = worship given! προσκηνεω **Notice:** that outside of the demons that worship is associated with Joy! IE. IS He Safe? NO! But He is good! When our eyes are opened to His authority we worship. Because He is good His authority is used for good and we worship with Joy!

H. When our eyes are opened to His authority we worship. Watch what happens in heaven!

1. Four creatures and Elders: "And the four living beings said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders **fell down and worshiped the Lamb.**" (Revelation 5:14, NLT)
2. All the angels and Elders: "And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living beings. And they **fell before the throne** with their faces to the ground **and worshiped God.**" (Revelation 7:11, NLT)
3. All 24 Elders: "The twenty-four elders sitting on their thrones before God **fell with their faces to the ground and worshiped him.**" (Revelation 11:16, NLT)
4. All 24 Elders at the end of the age: "Then the twenty-four elders and the four living beings fell down and **worshiped God**, who was sitting on the throne. They cried out, "Amen! Praise the Lord!"" (Revelation 19:4, NLT)
5. Worship given is proportional to the authority that has been revealed to a person! προσκηνεω - obedience, reverence, adoration, submission and service

Conclusion:

There is a connection between the clarity of the revelation of the authority of the Son of God and the extravagance with which we worship Him. The greater our understanding of His authority the easier and more extravagant our worship will be, because if comes from the heart. God actually helps us do this. The first command: I am the only God worship only me!

- Song: Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all!
- Song: He is the King worship now his majesty...

*"Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, **but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed.**"* (Hebrews 7:16, NLT)

"Because of this oath, Jesus is the one who guarantees this better covenant with God." (Hebrews 7:22, NLT) *"Here is the main point: We have a High Priest who sat down in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven. There he ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord and not by human hands."* (Hebrews 8:1-2, NLT)

He is the King

Worship now His majesty
Bow to the greatness of His throne
Lift up your voice
To the splendor of His majesty
Now blessings and honor
Glory and power
Be to the Lamb on the throne

Come and draw near
To the lamb enthroned in majesty
Bless His name with thankful hearts
Come and bow down
To the Lamb who reigns in majesty
Lift your praises to your God

He is the King
Worship now His majesty
Bow to the greatness of His throne
Lift up your voice
To the splendor of His majesty
Now blessings and honor
Glory and power
Be to the Lamb on the throne

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angles prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all
You are Lord of all
You are Lord of all

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all
And crown Him Lord of all
And crown Him Lord of all