

Sermon Discussion Questions

"BEHOLD YOUR KING"

Discuss

"Christianity is unique. The world's religions have certain traits in common, but until the gospel of Jesus Christ burst upon the Mediterranean world, no one in the history of human imagination had conceived of such a thing as the worship of a crucified man. The early Christian preaching announced the entrance of God upon the stage of history in the person of an itinerant Jewish teacher who had been ingloriously pinned up alongside two of society's castoffs to die horribly, rejected and condemned by religious and secular authorities alike, discarded onto the garbage heap of humanity, scornfully forsaken by both elites and common folk, leaving behind only a discredited, demoralized handful of scruffy disciples who had no status whatsoever in the eyes of anyone. **The peculiarity of this beginning for a world-transforming faith is not sufficiently acknowledged.**" (Fleming Rutledge, *The Crucifixion*, p. 1, emphasis added)

- 1) Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, ordered a sign to be placed over Jesus' cross, identifying the dying man as "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." (v. 19)
 - What are all the things conveyed in this eight-word inscription?
 - What is the significance of this being proclaimed in three different languages?
 - If this is considered as the first proclamation of the gospel, what else needs to be added?
- 2) There are many texts in the Old Testament that predicted the coming Messiah who would also be a suffering servant. (Take the time to read, for example, both Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22.)
 - Why is it important for these Scriptures to be fulfilled? (See also John 20:30-31)
 - What does the fulfillment of these prophecies reveal about Jesus? In particular, what does it tell us about his character?
- 3) At the foot of the cross was the tiny beginnings of the church, the making of a new family. John mentions three or four women (depending on how the names in verse 24 are interpreted) and himself, the disciple "whom he [Jesus] loved." (v. 26) The other gospels mention a few others.
 - We are given a glimpse of a new relationship within the new church: that of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and John, the beloved disciple. What did they have to offer each other? (This is an opportunity to use our sanctified imaginations!)
 - How can the church today function as a family? Give some concrete examples.

"O, the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore; how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, never more; how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own; how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne." (Samuel Trevor Francis, 1834-1925)



LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

DATE: March 29, 2020

SPEAKER: Chad

SERIES: The Cross and
the Resurrection

PASSAGE: John 19:16b-27

Pray

Heavenly Father

As we begin two weeks of considering and focusing on the cross and the resurrection, we pray that we might more fully grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. Grant that we might more deeply understand this love that surpasses knowledge, that we might be filled to the measure of all your fullness. (Eph. 3:17-19) Enable us to continue to live our lives rooted and built up in our Savior Jesus so that we might be strengthened in the faith.

You, O Christ, have disarmed the powers and authorities and made us alive in you. (Col. 2:13-15) We praise and worship you this day as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. 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)

Amen and amen.

PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

Hope for the Inner City: Dental, Mercy, and General

PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

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