

# Foundations of the Kingdom Part III

## Lordship: Painting an Accurate Picture of Jesus

### I. Intro: What I'm hoping for in this time

- To be far, far removed from familiarity and routine.
- Not for me to just preach at you the congregation as an individual on this occasion, but today for us to consciously cry out in the form of this service for a revelation of the honor that the Father has bestowed on His Son Jesus Christ as Lord.

(11) And while they were listening to these things, He went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and they **supposed** that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately. (12) He said, "Therefore, a certain nobleman went to a distant country **to receive a kingdom for himself**, and then return. (13) And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do **business with** this until I come back.'

(14) But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We **do not want this man to reign over us.**'"

Luke 19:11-14

### II. Objective: From this text I want to show **four observations for painting an accurate picture of Jesus as Lord.**

*1. From verse 11 I want to show that:*

Our presuppositions will hinder us from seeing an accurate picture of Jesus as Lord, which will in turn distort our view of the Kingdom.

*2. From verse 12 I want to show that:*

God the Father through scripture has painted an accurate picture of Jesus above all as Lord, and woe to us to not see it aright.

*3. From verse 13 I want to show that:*

We as a church have been commissioned to paint an accurate picture of Jesus as Lord to all of creation.

*4. And finally from verse 14 show that:*

We have something in our sinful nature that naturally wants to paint a belittling picture of Jesus.

## point 1

v.11 And while they were listening to these things, he went on to tell them a parable, **because** (here He is giving us reason for the parable) He was near Jerusalem (their view of the Kingdom had the Messiah physically reigning from Jerusalem, very center of Jewish life. From there they would reign over their enemies just as their enemies had reigned over them), **and they supposed (pre-supposed) that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately.....**

The Jewish Nation had been under slavery to gentile nations since the exile to Babylon. That's under four empires awaiting a promised Messiah. The anger and resentment built up in that time was understandable. They could see nothing but what they supposed, the son of David bringing back their glorious days of greatness. There were most likely thoughts of ethnic cleansing, the laws and stipulations and observances forced upon the Gentiles, war and conquering...

The point I draw out is this.

**They pre-supposed one thing and were so content and obstinate with that presupposition that they missed the revelation of something far, far greater-**

- **Far greater than an ethnic Israel conquering a small area of Palestine, and the Messiah**
- **Far greater than a human son of David. (See Matthew 22:41-45)**

Presuppositions **will make the amazing mundane**, the extravagant, ordinary, that which should move, lame and familiar. They will cause you to get a glimpse of the handle of the box that holds the treasure buried in the field, and rather than sell all and rip the box from the ground, just say, "That's a really nice handle planted there."

The point I make towards the picture of Jesus as Lord here is this:  
(By picture I mean a working theological concept)

- **Is it possible as an individual, as a church, that we were handed down/picked up along they way/made up by compilation/chose/heard from someone/gathered through observation a picture of Jesus that has become a presupposition that we are content with, that is blocking the revelation of Him as someone far, far greater?**

Some of these pictures (pointing to traditional portraits of Jesus as meek and mild) are not wrong by artistic freedom of expression. But they convey a lot of what most people's theological concepts are, which are inadequate, for they

convey **only a part** of his attributes. A lot of lamb with no Lion is an inaccurate picture.

**My argument today is** that the picture we have of Jesus at the foundation of our concept will affect our ability to see and live in the kingdom in its fullness.

And that we as the church, the ekklesia those called out, should be far from casual about the picture we have and present of the Son of Man.

I believe it is clear from scripture that to us above all else the Father presents the Son as Lord.

We must understand that the Son of God, the Word before he became flesh, was already **by origin** Lord of all. He is here presented as **delegated as Lord** by the Father as the God/man.

He is by his original nature God; and so he is by natural right Lord of all and supreme over all as much as the Father. Thus he has dominion over the world, not by delegation, but by his own right.  
Jonathan Edwards

So why by delegation also?

It is when he takes on flesh, and forever becomes the God/man, the mediator, after he comes and conquers sin by his perfect life, and honors the father by his shameful, bloody death, that he is **worthy of exaltation** as LORD.

This is mainly for us to see. Because he is our mediator, he became a propitiation for us, and defeated sin and death for us. That's why it is so blasphemous for us the church, of whom he has been made head (Col. 1:18) to see him as anything else!!!!!! The fact that this has to be a teaching to many denominations as extra is so wrong.

He is not some minor figure in history to us. He is the reason that reason exists, comprehension exists, distinction exists, cowardess and bravery exist, evil tyrants and self sacrificing leaders exist, weakness and strength, and death and life.

All things have been created by Him and for Him. (Col. 1:16)

They have all been made so we can see His greatness and adore it, come here in awe and sing about it, stand with tears in our eyes in moments of revelation of it, fall on our knees in comparison to it.

**God! How we miss this in self-focused Christianity!!! How we miss this in songs and sermons about the greatness of man, and miss the glory of Him with whom the Father is "well pleased!"**

## point 2

v. 12. He said therefore, a certain nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return

**Nobleman = Christ**

**Distant country=the heavenly realm**

**The kingdom he receives for himself =the Kingdom given to Him by the Father, all rule and authority of heaven and earth.**

- This part of the parable is describing what happened to Jesus after death, when he ascended back into heaven, after conquering death
- The New Testament is full of passages that follow this pattern that, after death, Jesus ascended and was seated at the right hand of God.

**Eph 1: 19-21** *“and what is the surpassing greatness of His of his power toward us who believe in accordance with the working of His might which he bought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominions, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come.”*

**But there is one passage in particular** that gives an inside view into the amazement of it all. I need you to imagine with me here and fight familiarity in yourself, and presuppositions, for the picture of this scene alone I believe will forever change your view of the Kingdom.

## **Daniel 7 13-14 (read first)**

- demonstration(play *Gladiator* track 9)

**Imagine this scene of Christ’s return from victory on earth**

- **Angels: this is not a few questionably gay effeminate long haired 130 lb men with fluffy wings clapping by exhortation, or 3-year-olds resembling Cupid with wings flying around..this is “thousand upon thousands..and myriads upon myriads” (Daniel 7:10) of seraphim and cherubim, those who preface their greetings with “Do not be afraid!”, the ones of whom God says He is the Lord of**

**Hosts, the army which Elijah prays the servant can see behind him. These are those of whom Jesus says, “Do you not think I can appeal to my father, and He will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions.”**

- **I imagine innumerable warriors designed by God to surround His glory and carry out His commands all dropping on one knee at the same time in honor of the Son’s return. The sound ...not some distant Christian band drowned out by talking, but the uproar of honor from every essence of their beings.**
- **He is the hero of heaven.**

Now when I read...

**Peter 1:21** “who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory”

What is it to be given glory by God, when you have delighted him this much?

**Matthew 28:18** “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

**My point** : there is a symphony in scripture, a symphony of His Lordship, and if we start to hear it, songs will be written, books will be written, dances will come forth, affections will be lifted, and lives will be lived with passion and zeal.

Samples of the Lordship symphony in scripture

Hebrews 1

Psalms 2 7-12

Psalms 110-1 -7

Colossians 1 15-18

The Father has bestowed such honor on the Son, and He is worthy.

- As Acts 2:36 says: “God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”
- As Hebrews 2: 8 says: “Thou hast loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, thy God has anointed you with the oil of gladness above thy companions.”
- Phil. 2:8-11: “He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ...to the glory of God the Father.”

Do you get the point....do you hear the sound...**do you see the picture the Father is painting?**

### point 3.

v. 13. And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas, and said to them, do business with this until I come back.

What does he give us to steward? Truth, His kingdom, His glory

“Our lives paint a picture of our Lord to the world, either by the negative by our casualness about sin or in the positive by our restraint of sin by fascination of His greatness.”

**Negative:** The picture we paint to the world by our actions of:

- How casually we live life, let our tongue slip, our anger rage. We are saying something to the world about the reign we are under.
- How casually we live our religious life. How we do this thing called church.
- How easily we sell our inheritance. How easily we are pleased with the things of the world more than Christ.

**C.S Lewis** Quote: the weight of glory

**We are half-hearted creatures**, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us. Like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in the slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. **We are far too easily pleased.**

**Positive:**

- When we are restrained (from sin) and those around us wonder why.
- Not by religious self righteous conviction, but when we see something greater in the person of Christ, that although we could dishonor Him, we just can't.
- We may want to lose all restraint because we are human, but something has captured us. And we will wait for the fulfillment of desire versus settling for the carnal and often corrupt imitation.

### point 4.

v.13 But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying “we do not want this man to reign over us.

**“The essence of sin is the belittling of God’s glory.”**

-John Piper [The Pleasure of God]

**“The very essence of sin can walk in these church doors week after week under a banner bearing Christ’s name, when we belittle His glory.”**

- We belittle him because we don’t want to be reigned over.
- We belittle him by painting a picture of him to suit our needs and nothing more. Casually edit.
- We belittle His glory when we turn what should be about Him to ourselves, that place in worship where we should be lifted to exalt His greatness, and we turn to what can He do for us...I hate that!!!!
- Christian songs and sermons that stink of self focus...I hate that!!! God forgive us for what we so often call Christianity.

### **III. Conclusion**

Pay homage to the Son lest you perish in the way.

Psalm 2

**“We are commanded to see Him as He is**, and respond in worship correctly. He does not give us the option to paint a picture of Him any way we please, leaving out what we don’t like...”

**He does not give us the option** of His lordship as some accessory, some denominational extra.

**Do not view the Son lightly.** Do not keep your picture of buddy Jesus, who understands you have a special deal with the Father that doesn’t require you to bow your knee in this life to His rule. Read the rest of Luke 19. ..

“But these enemies of mine who did not want me to reign over them,  
Bring them here and slay them in my presence.”

**It is simply this...Let us come, lay down and despise our painting that left Christ as Savior in heaven but leaves our life on earth to us** and repent for what we have left out. Then ask the Father to repaint it to us accurately, repaint the picture of the Son

- with whom He is well-pleased, and in whom we stand and are therefore delighted in
- Of the lamb that was found worthy, who went to the father to make us worthy by imputation.
- Of our hero, the hero of heaven and earth to whom our soul sings.....

