

The Sign Of A King

Luke 23:38

- Having this time dedicated to a lesson in preparation for the Lord's Supper, I am faced with a challenge and a blessing. Often I have limited myself to the commonly used passages and thoughts at the Lord's Table. What a privilege it is to be able to look thoroughly at the Savior through the reflection and meditation of His death for our sins.
- Most people are familiar with the sign that was nailed to the top of the cross of Jesus when he was crucified.
- Have you ever stopped to consider the significance of that sign and what it accomplished?
- As we prepare for the Lord's Supper let us think on these things together.
- Remember that even though this sign was used by others to mock Jesus (Luke 23:37-38), the statement regarding Jesus being a King is truth.
- When Jesus was asked by Pilate if He was a King, He answered and told Pilate that he was speaking correctly. Jesus then told him that He came and was born for that very purpose (John 18:37). Even though Jesus explained that His Kingdom is not of this world, He fully acknowledged His kingship. Jesus is our King! Amen!

-Consider The Sign:

Remember that those who saw Pilate write the sign wanted him to change the format of the text to look like a false claim that Jesus made. Pilate said that what he had written was not going to be changed (John 19:21-22)

Many people talk about the three nails that held the body of Jesus on the cross (two in his hands and one in his feet). I am convinced though that we have often forgotten about the other nail that held the sign above the head of Jesus. What did Paul mean when he said the Old Law was nailed to the cross? (Col. 2:14) Certainly Paul wasn't saying that Jesus was the Old Law. Could it be that when Jesus was labeled as King that it proclaimed His Lordship and new Law. Just a thought. Certainly His death and His blood ushered in the new law, but He was exalted over all other powers and authorities (Phil 2:8-11).

The few words that were inscribed on the sign would make a huge impact on many who would ever hear this message proclaimed (See John 19:20)

Reading from "His Passion : Christ's Journey To The Resurrection" pg. 244

"Please note that the sign bears immediate fruit. Remember the response of the criminal? Moments from his own death, in a maelstrom of pain, he turns and says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42)

Luke seems to make the connection between the reading of the sign and the offering of the prayer. In one passage he writes: “At the top of the cross these words were written: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS” (Luke 23:38). Four quick verses later we read the petition of the thief: “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

The thief knows he is in a royal mess. He turns his head and reads a royal proclamation and asks for royal help...”

“...the sign was the first tool used to proclaim the message of the cross.” (See also John 19:19-22)

Others signs proclaiming that Jesus is King:

Remember that the gospel has been spread through newspaper, radio, email, books, gospel revivals and even in messages like this one.

The greatest sign after the original wooden sign that hung above the head of our thorn crowned King is the Lord’s Supper

Because of the proclamation of the Kingship of Jesus on a sign, a soul was saved.

When we take the Lord’s Supper, we proclaim the Lord’s death (I Cor. 11:26). The message of our (Lord - kurios [meaning supreme authority] King is told to everyone who is exposed to this memorial feast.

The Bible says in Revelation 17:14, “...He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him {are the} called and chosen and faithful.” When we sit down at the table of the Lord we are with Him. Aren’t you thankful to be called and chosen by the Lord? A very relevant question to ask at this point is “are you faithful”? Don’t take the Supper of the Lord in an unworthy manner.

You know this memorial is for those who know Jesus as their King. This communion is for those who have made Jesus their Lord.

WATCH THE “He’s My King” Video (without sound)