

November 25, 2018

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King of the Universe

### The Lord is our King!

Daniel 7:13-14

Psalms 93:1-2,5

Revelation 1:5-8

John 18:33b-37

Daniel sees in his vision one like the Son of Man who reached the Ancient One, was presented before him, and received glory, kingship, and dominion which is everlasting. All peoples, nations, and languages shall serve him and his dominion is an everlasting one.

The psalmist sees the Lord as a King from everlasting and girt about with strength. He made the world firm and holiness befits his house and the Lord's decrees are worthy of our complete trust.

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness who has freed us from our sins by his blood. He made us into a kingdom and is coming again. He is the Alpha, and the Omega, the One who is, who was and is to come, the Almighty!

Jesus is questioned by Pilate and is asked, "Are you the King of the Jews?" This was the charge the religious leaders brought against Jesus attempting to emphasize its political aspect, something the Roman Procurator could find objectionable. Jesus responds that his kingdom is not here, is not of this world. "I was born," Jesus says "to testify to the truth," and everyone who belongs to the truth will listen to my voice. After this Jesus remained silent and did not use this time, as criminals normally would have done, to appeal for mercy or deny guilt.

**The Father's throne stands firm from of old,  
The Son leads us to this kingdom,  
The Holy Spirit guides us on the path.**

The readings point to the truth of Christ the King whose words are worthy of trust and obedience. He is the One who will help us reorder our priorities and realize what really matters in life. He is king because he is Creator and the "reign of God" is proclaimed through this creation. We constantly pray, "May your Kingdom come." This is the Kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love, and peace. It is Christ's glance at us that brings us to turn toward him and brings about our participation in his Kingdom



*"Just as the farmer, when he girds himself to cultivate the soil must take the tools and clothing for cultivating, so Christ the King, the heavenly and true cultivator, when he came to humanity made barren by evil, put on the body and carried the cross as his tool and worked the barren soul and removed from it the thorns and thistles of evil spirits and pulled up the weeds of sin and burned up with fire every weed of its sins. And in this way he cultivated it with the wood of the cross and planted in it the most beautiful paradise of the Spirit, bearing every fruit that is sweet and delectable to God as its owner."*

(Pseudo-Macarius (390),)The Fifty Spiritual Homilies and the Great Letters, George A Maloney,S. J., Paulist Press.

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