

**THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM**

Mark 11:1-11

Every Gospel writer offers a different (not conflicting) perspective on the life and ministry of Jesus. Mark's version of the Triumphal says that the "Kingdom of David" is coming. Mark wants to portray a daring King bringing a demanding Kingdom.

**(1) The Daring King.** Jesus had been instructing his followers to keep the miracles and signs secretive. But now he rides into Jerusalem in a daring public demonstration as if saying, "Here I am, come and get me!" This was during the Passover when the population of Jerusalem tripled keeping the Roman soldiers in high alert for any signs of revolt.

This act of Jesus should come with a warning, "Don't try this in your town, unless you have washed people's feet, studied and taught people for years, and prayed through the dark nights". His private faithfulness and prayers were what gave him confidence and boldness. He was daring. And he knew what he was doing. If this God storms into your life today, you can be sure he knows what he is up to. He can handle your storm.

**(2) The Misunderstood King.** About 170 years earlier, the Jewish priest Judas Maccabeus led a victorious revolt against Antiochus Epiphanes who sacrificed a pig in the Temple altar. Judas then rode into Jerusalem to declare his victory and rule. This was a political victory for the Jewish. Jesus riding into Jerusalem that day invoked the same nationalistic excitement and fervour. But when he failed to deliver, and instead attacked the Temple the next day, their hopes were dashed. So they started planning to kill Jesus.

Misunderstandings and wrong expectations bring chaos and violence. This is a warning for us: What the crowd did to Jesus that week is exactly what we do to God everyday of our lives. We worship God on Sundays; ignore God on Monday; and by the end of the week we are reeling in disappointment.

**(3) The King who is in Control:** He is in control of events. He knew exactly where the donkey would be placed, and how the owners would react. Furthermore, the colt on which he rode had never been ridden before. Untrained horses or donkeys are dangerous to ride on, especially through crowded dusty and noisy streets of Jerusalem. But this shows Jesus was a King in control of all the elements.

**(4) The Demanding Kingdom.** The events in the previous chapter (Mark 10) will tell us something about the Kingdom and its demands. Events in Mark 10 is building up to 11. Mark 10 starts with marriage faithfulness and loyalty; then a rich young man is asked to sell all his property to follow Jesus; then we find Jesus redefining power and leadership to James and John; and finally the blind Bartimaeus receives his sight.

What is Mark trying to tell us? The Kingdom of God demands complete loyalty and faithfulness. The Kingdom redefines power, leadership and service for us, and insists that those who offer sacrificial service are greatest of all. It demands that we reorder our financial priorities and direct them to Kingdom work. God is not against money, power or leaders. Rather, people with socio-economic capital and political influence are most powerful tools in God's hands (both biblical and secular history confirms this). God often uses such "elites" for his purpose. Then the chapter ends with Jesus opening Bartimaeus' eyes. How would you answer if Jesus were to ask you, "What do you want?" like he asked Bartimaeus. If your request is "Lord I want to see your Kingdom", that is a request he cannot refuse.

- Pastor Kedo Peseyie



CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD  
AND THE WISDOM OF GOD

# City Church

## VISION statement of the City Church:

*City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.*

## AIMS of the City Church:

**Worship:** *To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.*

**Fellowship:** *To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.*

**Evangelism:** *To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.*

**Discipleship:** *To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.*

**Mission:** *To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.*

## ESTHER SUNDAY

Leader : Mhabemo Yanthan  
Speaker : Kedo Peseyie  
Ushers : Initali Vinito & Moamongla Pongen  
Keyboard : Vizolenuo Solo  
Flower : Tiala Pongen

## Assisting in Lord's Supper

Dr. L. M. Murry, Dr. Keditso, M. Odyuo & Dr. Vinito Ghishi

## Call to Worship

## Praise & Worship

Responsive Reading- Resurrection  
Mass Prayer

Announcement

Special Song : Senior Class

Offertory

Hymn No.89 : Christ Arose

Message

Lord's Supper

Hymn No.293 : Because He Lives

Benediction



## PRAYER

- Praise God for the baptism candidates that God would work in their hearts and mind to bring about clarity of faith and commitment to discipleship.
- Pray for our leaders in the Nagaland Government. 1 Timothy 2:2 says, "Pray for the kings and for all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty".

### The Last Seven Words of Jesus

The seven last words of Jesus are the recorded words of Jesus as he hung on the cross. Three are recorded in John 19, namely, “**Dear woman here is your son**” (v.26), “**I am thirsty**” (v.28), and “**It is finished**” (v.30).

1. Jesus initiates a new community and whoever believes in Him becomes part of the larger community of God – one big family of God.
2. Jesus’ sufferings were real, not make-believe. He felt pain for real, he thirsted for real but it may also be spiritual thirst for His father who had turned His face away because of the sins of humanity that Jesus bore on the cross.
3. Lastly, Jesus fulfilled the vocation of the Prophet, Messiah and the High Priest. Not only that, he ushered and inaugurated the Kingdom of God which will be completed when he returns in his full glory as the Son of Man and lastly, he fulfilled the role of the suffering servant - dying in perfect obedience to the Father. No wonder, he cried out in victory: “It is completed!” “It is done!” “It is finished!”

**-Kaikhu Sumi**

### Christ: The Atoning Sacrifice

The first reference to atonement was when God provided animal skins to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness, an act which requires the death of a sinless animal, shedding of its blood on their behalf (Gen 3:21).

OT Practice: High priest sacrifices animal (bull & goat) as a sin offering for himself, his family and people. It was incomplete – a shadow of the good things to come (Heb 10:1). While animals served as provisional sacrifices they could not ultimately atone (Heb 10:4) because it requires the blood again after a year.

Why Christ?: God emphasized only clean animals were acceptable for sacrifice - without spot and blemish (Deut. 15:21). Thus, Jesus as a sinless man in order that sin would be punished in the same nature which incurred the guilt of sin (Heb. 2:14-17). He as a holy God because if Christ was a mere man, then He would not have been able to atone for sin of people (Rev. 5:9). His death inaugurated the new covenant, in which access to God under all circumstances is guaranteed. There is no longer any veil between God and His people (Matt. 27:51). We have access to God through the shed blood of Jesus. There is no need for another sacrifice. Jesus paid it all! Christ's covenant was eternal and His offering for sin was perfect so there is no longer any need for any other offering for sin.

Our response: As Peter said, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...” (Acts 2:38)

**-Moa Imsong**

**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Tithes: ₹ 1,16,600    Offering: ₹ 10,990    Nagamese: ₹ 505    Mission: ₹ 2,000  
Thanksgiving: ₹ 8,500    Building Fund: ₹ 30,000    Total: ₹ 1,68,595

### Information

- Thursday women fellowship at 4:30pm in EGF Hall: **Leader**– Mrs. Mhonchumi, **Scripture Reading**– Mrs. Kevi Myingthungo and **Sharing**– Mrs. Rose Mary.
- Movie evening today at 4pm. Everyone is invited and be blessed.
- Sunday School Love Feast Day and outing on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- Deacon Board meeting today after the church service.

### Jesus: The Passover Lamb

The following is only a few aspects of how Christ corresponds to the Passover Lamb. The key passage is Exodus 12.

#### (I) LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH

**\*Passover Lamb:** It should be a lamb without blemish, male, one year old and the lamb had to be selected four days (i.e. the 10<sup>th</sup> day) before its sacrifice (on the 14<sup>th</sup> day) and to be kept apart. (Exodus 12: 1-6).

**\*Explanation:** The lamb has to be a male in its prime without defect. If not, God will never accept the sacrifice. One of the reasons for the lamb to be set apart for four days before sacrifice could be to ascertain that truly the lamb is without blemish for God to truly accept the sacrifice.

**\*How Jesus Fulfils It:** Jesus was a male, 33 years old in his prime when he was offered as a sacrifice. About 4 days before his crucifixion, Jesus openly set apart as being distinct from mankind, he was examined by all classes of people and found without blemish. The officers said, “never man spoke like this man.” Pilate declared, “I find no fault in him”.

#### (II) TIME AND PLACE OF SACRIFICE.

**\*Passover Lamb:** The Passover lamb to be sacrificed on the 14<sup>th</sup> day at sunset (Exo. 12:6), and at the temple (Deut. 16:6)

**\*Explanation:** The first Passover was held in Egypt, the second in the wilderness but later God appointed a place for its celebration. It was in Jerusalem. There was God's palace, there His altar smoked and there only the lamb was to be killed.

**\*How Jesus Fulfils It:** Jesus, according to the gospel was led to Jerusalem; the crowd dragged him along the city and he was crucified at the precise spot where God ordained that it should be and also at the same hour when the Passover lambs were sacrificed in Egypt.

#### (III) MANNER OF DEATH.

**\*Passover Lamb:** Manner of the death: Take the blood of the lamb and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses and eat the flesh of the lamb that night roasted on the fire (Exo. 12:7-11). No bones to be broken (Exo. 12:46).

**\*How Jesus Fulfils It:** Crucifixion answers to all these three things. Crucifixion has in it the shedding of the blood. It has in it the idea of roasting, for roasting signifies long torment. The bible says that Jesus' body was taken from the cross with no bones broken. (John 19:31-36)

#### (IV) THE BLOOD AND FLESH OF THE LAMB.

**\*Passover Lamb:** Benefits from the blood and eating the flesh of the lamb: The lord will Passover (Exo. 12:23)

**\*How Jesus Fulfils It:** We derive benefit from the death of Christ in two modes- first by having His blood sprinkled on us for our redemption; secondly by our eating His flesh for food, regeneration and sanctification.

**Conclusion:** Jesus is not only the fulfilment of the type but the only one. And his sacrifice foreshadows all sacrifices offered in the OT (Heb 9:26-28). The Israelites were instructed by God to observe the Passover day as a memorial day and to keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout all their generations. Jesus however ushered in the new covenant mentioned in Jeremiah 31:31. Hebrew 10:9 says “behold I have come to do your will”. He does away with the first order to establish the second. Jesus thus instituted the Lords supper, which is the shift from the shadow to the substance.

**-Nini Lasuh**