

Jesus is King 2020

December 13th, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Lk 1:30-33, 2:1-14; Matt 5:14-16

This is the first time in the book of Luke that Jesus is introduced. What does Luke want to make sure is really clear?

What you hear is Jesus is the coming _____.

the Lord God will give to him the _____ of his father David, and he will _____ over the house of Jacob, and of his _____ there will be no end.

As Jesus arrives on the scene this is what it is said about the King...

- good news** (εὐαγγέλια) of great joy that will be for **all the people**.
- born this day in the city of David a **Savior** (σωτήρ), who is **Christ** the **Lord** (κύριος).
- with the angel join in a multitude of the heavenly host **singing**
- "Glory to God in the highest, and **on earth peace**...

But wait...is there another King?...

In 27b.c. the Roman Senate bestows upon Gaius Octavius the title "Caesar Augustus", acknowledging his supreme position as King of the Roman Empire. He was seen as essentially a god and worshipped in a cult of the emperor and they hailed him as _____ (κύριος). Many cities in the empire rearranged the calendar to begin the year on Augustus' birthday, on the basis that Augustus had been sent as _____ (σωτήρ) to make an end to all war. The day of his birth had marked the beginning of the message of _____ (εὐαγγέλια) for the world. _____ were used in the worship of the emperor. And Augustus, was praised for having inaugurated a worldwide _____. An altar to *pax Augusta* ("Augustan peace") stood in Rome.

The first century reader (especially the non-Christians) would not and no doubt think about Caesar and will be surprised. Where is your _____? Who is your _____?

Luke reminds us there will always be _____ His place in our life.

This leaves us at a place where we don't just celebrate Christmas, it means that we are vigilant to _____ *what does it look like for Jesus to be King in every day of my life?*

And what does it look like for Jesus to be King in our lives?

We assert, against the governor, that we have the right to our not government-given rights, to gather and worship.

Our true King calls us to gather, to worship together, to worship one another, to renew our minds with Truth, to love one another for one another, and to equip one another to live in the world-our family members, neighbors and friends. We are the people of Christ.

People are hurting and it's only getting worse. A Recent Gallup Poll was published Dec. 7th 2020. "*Americans' Mental Health Ratings Sink to New Low*" Surprisingly/not surprisingly, every single day of our lives our mental health in 2020, except _____ our mental health actually improved in 2020!

Responding to God...

What does it look like for Jesus to be King in our lives? Where is that a challenge? Where have you _____?