

Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 23:26-24:8 Acts 1:1-8

The Big Idea: Jesus Christ comes and the full power and authority of heaven arrives on earth. He comes to defeat Satan and to set up His Kingdom.

1. *The King Has Come*

- Jesus' coming was foretold & was exactly as it was foretold
- Jesus proved he was the expected King by:
 - Claiming to be God
 - Doing miracles
 - Forgiving sins

2. *The King Has Triumphed*

He came to represent his people, to fight their battle against Satan and to take their place in God's sight. He did this by

- His life – Living the complete obedience we fail to live
- His death – Taking punishment for our rebellion
- His resurrection – Smashing the power of death to set his people free

The Consequences of his triumph

- We can be accepted - The curtain in the temple was torn open
- We can be forgiven - "It is finished" - the price has been paid
- We can be transformed - Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to make us like him
- Because of Jesus, sinners like us can be God's people, living with him, under his rule, enjoying his blessings forever

3. *The Message of Victory Spreads*

- Acts – the good news of the triumph of the King spreads

Application - Listen to the King

- "I am the way ... no-one comes to the father except by me" – John 14:6
- "No-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again" – John 3:3
- "I will build my church & the gates of Hell will not overcome it" – Matt 16:18
- "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand." – John 10:28
- "In my fathers house are many rooms – I am going there to prepare a place for you" – John 14:2

Next sermon: Living in the Kingdom

Readings for next week: Eph 1:1-13 Eph 4:1 5:1-8

Opening Psalm: 107:18-23