

# Lesson 5

## Behold, Christ Your King

**Bible Lesson:** II Samuel 5:17-25; Matthew 21:1-11

**Memory Verse:** "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." *Revelation 11:15b*

**Enrichment Memory Verse:** Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. *Zechariah 9:9b*

**Catechism Memory Work:** And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; . . .  
*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord; . . .

### TEACHER PREPARATION

#### Prepare to Teach:

- ✦ The students will understand that as Old Testament kings were to lead the people to love and serve God and to protect them from their enemies, so Jesus as our King will protect us and lead us to righteousness and joy in Him.
- ✦ The students will understand what it means that Jesus is our King. They will know what God's righteous Kingdom is.
- ✦ The students will understand that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to show that He was the promised Savior-King.
- ✦ The students will by grace yield to Jesus as King and look forward in faith to His coming again to reign as King.

#### Prepare Materials:

*Along with the regular materials needed for class, you will need the following items for this lesson:*

- ◆ Scroll from Lesson 3, figure of priest from Lesson 4, crown made from gold paper, map of Palestine of Jesus' day.

- ◆ Quarter-long project materials (listed in Introductory section): for this, Lesson 5, have the students add onto last weeks message the following: "Meaning of the Second Article: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord"

#### Prayer Preparation

1. Pray for your own preparation through Bible study and lesson preparation, that your mind and heart may be filled with faith in Christ, your King, and dedication to Him. Thank God that you can be His subject in His Kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy.
2. Pray for your pupils, that their hearts may be prepared to learn what it means to have Christ as their Lord and King. Pray that they might be given the grace of repentance and faith.
3. Pray for the coming Sunday's session, that God's Holy Spirit may direct the class session and give you the words and wisdom needed to teach.

### BIBLE BACKGROUND

#### A. Bible Study

The people of Israel wanted to be like the nations around them and they demanded a king. God warned them of the trouble that would come to them with a king in charge. Nevertheless, they asked for and received a king. In doing this, they were coveting and rejecting God and His Word.

A nineteenth century British historian named Lord Acton famously said, "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Unfortunately, in this world we have often seen this to be accurate when men are given power and authority. The authority and power given to a man would always lead to power being abused to some extent because of our sinful nature. So how can having a king be seen as a good thing? When we recognize that the King that God promised to send would not be a man only; but the God-Man Jesus Christ. He was not to be an earthly king as He told Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). If He had come to be an earthly king He would have "called thousand angels to destroy the world and set Him free (Ambassador Hymnal #553). His kingdom was and is bigger than the nation of Israel it encompasses all that exists. He is Lord of all creation.

Luther, especially in the Large Catechism, focuses on the title "Lord" which is given to Jesus Christ. This term "Lord" conveys the idea of authority. It used as a title for those who have legal authority over people. In nonreligious use it is used as a form of showing respect in religious use it is a title given to God. In the Old Testament the personal name by which God revealed Himself, (in Hebrew *hw"ēhy> o* or Yahweh) is translated in our English Bibles with the word LORD. When the Bible speaks of Jesus Christ in the New Testament we also see the name or title Lord applied to Him.

In our minds, we have a picture of a king who is to be served. But our king humbled Himself and served us. We are confessing that *the* King is our King. We are declaring that indeed the Cross was for all people; but specifically for "me." Again as Luther says in the Large Catechism, "For before I had no Lord nor King, but was captive under the power of the devil, condemned to death, enmeshed in sin and blindness." But our King has paid the ransom, obtained the pardon, and sets the captives free.

He is a king who has all authority but has not been corrupted in any way (Matt. 28:18-20, Heb. 4:15). He has and will always retain absolute power (Matt. 11:27; Luke 10:22). With this in mind, we recognize that a righteous and holy king must make right judgments. With His great power Jesus will make sure that the wicked are punished and that the righteous will be protected and go free. The unbeliever hearing this should tremble; He needs protection. Here again we have the great joy of proclaiming to the one broken by sin and fearful of punishment that our King is just and merciful. He has even lain down His life for us all. To have Jesus as Lord means to have one who will protect us, provide for us, and who loves us. His love has been expressed most clearly in His death on the Cross.

## B. Creed Study

As Prophet, Jesus taught man the way of salvation; as High Priest He secured it by offering Himself as a ransom for sin. As King, Jesus rules over the Church as its Head, and over all things as King of Kings. Christ's work as king is to "govern and keep His children, and defend them against their enemies." (Catechism, #164)

According to Scripture, the universal rule of Christ (the Son of Man) extends:

1. to all nations and peoples (Daniel 7:13,14)
2. to all things on earth, in the air, and in the seas (Psalm 8:6-8)
3. to the enemies of Christ (Psalm 110:2)
4. to the Church (Ephesians 1:20-23)

Nothing is excluded from the reign of Christ except God Himself (I Corinthians 15:27).

## The Kingdom

On the basis of Scripture we speak of the kingdoms of power, grace, and glory. These are not three separate kingdoms, for the dominion of Christ is one, but His authority is recognized in different ways according to the different character of those who are governed.<sup>88</sup>

### *Kingdom of Power*

In a general sense, all things belong to Christ's kingdom of power because He rules over nature and over all creatures. While on earth, Jesus was true king, possessing and exercising divine power over nature and people and demons (Matthew 8:5-13, 23-27, 28-32). In this kingdom all things must "obey" Him.

### *Kingdom of Grace*

To this kingdom belong all those who have accepted Christ as Savior and Lord, who are justified by faith and are true members of the Christian church on earth. "Jesus is Lord" to His redeemed people; He is on the throne of their heart and asks for their obedience and loyalty. For the Christian, obedience is a joyful response to God's grace. In the kingdom of grace, Jesus leads and directs His people (the church) by the means of grace—the Word and sacraments.

### *Kingdom of Glory*

All true believers of the kingdom of grace here on earth will one day forever be His subjects in the kingdom of glory, which is the continuation of the kingdom of grace in heaven (Acts 7:55,56; I Peter 5:4; I John 3:2). There all believers will be members of the Church Triumphant. The kingdom of glory will be revealed in God's appointed time (Acts 1:7), but Christians eagerly wait for its appearing.

### **David, King of Israel (II Samuel 5:17-25)**

David was selected by God to be king over Israel, and served as such for 40 years (5:3-5; I Samuel 16:6-13). The king was responsible for governing the people and protecting them from their enemies. The king also gave spiritual and moral direction to the nation. The kings of Israel are often memorialized in Scripture as doing or not doing "what was right in the sight of the Lord" (I Kings 15:11; 25-26).

David was raised up as king to save Israel from the Philistines (3:18). It was his victories that restored respect for Israel and subdued its warring neighbors. Here he gains two victories over the Philistines:

#### *Aggression*

In both actions the Philistines were the aggressors. The first time they came up to seek David because they heard he had been anointed king (5:17), and they wanted to crush his government at its beginning before it became strong. They were defeated. They attacked again attempting to recover what they lost in the first battle. It was up to David to protect his people from the enemy as well as govern his people. In like manner, Jesus not only rules in the hearts of His people, but He protects and defends them against the enemies of sin, death, and the devil. Even though our enemies are defeated, their attacks continue (Ephesians 6:12ff; Romans 7:18-25; I Peter 5:8).

#### *Assurance*

In both actions, David consulted with the Lord (5:19,23). One question concerned his duty: "Shall I go up?" The Lord assured David it was his duty and that he would have success (5:19).

#### *Attack*

In the first battle David routed the army and put their gods to shame; they abandoned the idols which they had brought along to protect themselves (5:21). In the second battle, God gave David specific instructions on how to fight because the Lord was going to fight for them (5:23,24). David obeyed his King and was successful.

### **Christ, King of Kings (Matthew 21:1-11)**

These verses show some of the kingly power of Jesus, and some of His divine personality, so fitting at this time in His ministry, the beginning of the end.

#### *Arrangements (21:1-3).*

The disciples are to find a donkey and her colt and bring them to Jesus. His arrangements here are in obedience to the Word of God and fulfillment of the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9, which speaks of the King coming on a donkey. If anyone questions the disciples, they are to say, "The Lord has need of them" (21:3). It is obvious that the owner was a friend of Jesus and the disciples, but the orders given here also reveal something of Jesus' divine knowledge, personality and power.

#### *Arrival (21:4-8)*

Zechariah's prophecy begins with "Rejoice greatly," but Matthew omits that and substitutes a more sober line: "Say to the daughter of Zion," taken from Isaiah 62:11. When the people are told who is coming, they will rejoice and certainly ought to rejoice. But they do not yet know who Jesus really is, or the joy that He brings.

The King "comes to you," and is "gentle, mounted on a donkey" (21:5). Luther writes of this unique King: "He is a peculiar King; thou dost not seek him, he seeks thee; thou dost not find him, he finds thee; for the preachers come from him not from thee; their preaching comes from him not from thee; thy faith comes from him not from thee; and all that thy faith works in thee comes from him not from thee."

So the King of kings arrives in Jerusalem, His beloved city. There is a welcome as the people spread branches and garments before Him (21:8).

#### *Acclaim (21:9-11)*

The people acclaim Jesus as king by their words and deeds. They cry "hosanna" which means "save now." Their words are taken from Psalm 118:25-26, a messianic psalm. Later that week, Jesus refers to this psalm and applies it to Himself (Matthew 21:42; Psalm 118:22-23).

A significant addition made by the crowd is "to the son of David" (21:9). This title is both royal and messianic. Here at last Jesus enters the great capital as the divinely prophesied Messiah-King, the son of David, and accepts the acclaim of the nation, as represented by the crowds.

When the city asks, "Who is this?" some of the multitude reply that this is Jesus, the well-known prophet from Galilee (21:11). The disciples themselves did not fully realize the impact of this event as seen in John 12:16. For the people in general, spiritual blindness prevents them from seeing their king. For one thing, their own religious leaders robbed them of the truth of God's Word and substituted man-made traditions (Luke 11:52). The leaders were not interested in the truth, but only in protecting their own interests (John 11:47-53). Their confession was, "We have no king but Caesar" (John 19:15). Even miracles did not convince them.

Whatever was unclear for the disciples and the crowds, one thing is clear: a holy enthusiasm caught their hearts that day, a real spiritual joy and hope was expressed. Jesus accepted this welcome as He rode into the city as the King of Israel, and King of kings.

### King of My Life

"I believe that Jesus Christ,...is my Lord." Lord means ruler. God has given Him a name that is above every name and placed Him above every other power (Philippians 2:9-11). He is the Lord of the Church and of the Christian's life; He is Lord of all. The Christian life cannot be lived apart from the lordship of Jesus.

When you say, "I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord," you place yourself in faith under the lordship of Christ. It means trusting Him to conquer the enemies, to give you victory over sin, death and the devil. It means being obedient to His will. It means serving Him (II Corinthians 5:15).

Many people want Jesus to save them from sin, but they do not want Him to be Lord of their life or to tell them what to do. Jesus once said, "And why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46)

When you in faith accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, you are accepting His control over your life. You have no way of knowing what will happen as you obey His will. But you trust Him to do what is best, and His will for you is always best.

## BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

### Welcome

As the pupils arrive, visit with them about their experiences in preparing for the day's lesson. If appropriate, help them review memory work. Share your own experiences of learning of God's care and His answers to prayer.

### Open with Prayer

Ask for topics for thanksgiving and praise, and for prayer concerns. Call on students to participate in sentence prayers.

### Recite Memory Work

Listen to students recite their memory work:

**From the Bible:** John 1:29

And

**From the Catechism:** And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead."

### Review

**ASK** Do you remember the theme of this quarter's lessons? What is this book about? (*God's Son, our Redeemer*) What is the name we usually use for God's Son? What do we call Him? (*Jesus*) The Bible has many titles or names for Jesus, our Savior. Each name stands for something Jesus does for us.

**DISPLAY** the scroll. **ASK** What does this scroll make you think of? Think about something Jesus did with a scroll something like this. (*In Lesson 4 we learned that Jesus was a prophet.*) **ASK** Why was Jesus called a prophet? (*He taught us about God, His Father and about the way He would save those who trusted in Jesus who died on the cross for their sins.*)

**DISPLAY** the figure of the high priest. **SAY** Last week we learned about this man. Who was he and what does he teach us about Jesus? (*The high priest. The high priest reminded people that God would send the Great High Priest.*) **ASK** What did the Old Testament high priest do? (*He offered animal sacrifices to God for the sins of the people, to remind them that they needed someone who could really take away their sins.*) Why is Jesus called the Great High Priest? (*He offered Himself for the sins of all the people when He died on the cross.*)

**SAY** And so we say that Jesus is the Prophet who taught us what God wanted us to know. He is the Great High Priest Who offered Himself on the cross for our sins. God accepted His offering and raised Him from the dead. Do you remember the Bible verse that we learned about that? We find it in John 1:29. (Have the class recite the verse together and one or two students recite it independently. Be sure to check the reference.)

## Introduce Wall Words

triumphant—  
 oppression—  
 rebellious—  
 anointed—  
 subjects—  
 citizens—

## Introduce the Lesson

**DISPLAY** the crown. **SAY** This crown reminds us of another title we use for Jesus. I'm sure you know what that would be. Call on a pupil to answer. (*Yes, Jesus is our King.*) **ASK** What is a King? (*A ruler who is in complete charge. His people must obey whatever the king commands.*) **SAY** We don't have kings like that to rule over our countries on earth now. When people were kings, they made too many mistakes. Some kings even were cruel and made people suffer while they themselves were rich and powerful. That's because people have sinful hearts. **ASK** Do you think Jesus would be a wise and good King? (*Yes, because He is good and because He loves us.*) **SAY** Jesus doesn't rule in our countries today. He rules in His Kingdom, the Church, made up of all people who love and trust Him as Savior. Today's lesson will teach us more about Jesus our King.

## Teach the Lesson

Call on a student to read the title of Lesson 5. **ASK** Do you remember what the word *behold* means? We learned it in last week's lesson, and it was in the memory verse. (*It means "look." The lesson title tells us to look at Christ, the King.*) Whose King does the title say Christ is? (*Our King*) Christ wants to be King in your life. Let's see what the lesson will teach about that. **ASK** Has anyone here seen a king? **ASK** How are the kings of today different from kings in story books? (*Today's kings aren't as powerful.*) **SAY** I wonder if Old Testament kings were powerful. Let's read the lesson to see why it was difficult to be a king of Israel. (*Often the people*

*didn't want to do things God's way. They rebelled.*) How did the king know what to do? (*God told them how to rule the people.*) **SAY** Let's read about one of Israel's great kings. **ASK** Who was the great king? (*David*) What did King David do for God's people? (*He defeated their enemies.*) **ASK** Do you know anything else about David? (*He killed Goliath, helped King Saul, and wrote many Psalms in the Bible.*) **SAY** Look at paragraph seven. Can you find a long word that means "a person's children and grandchildren and their children and grandchildren?" (*descendants*) **SAY** Read this paragraph to find out what God promised King David about one of his descendants. **ASK** Who would David's special descendant be? (*Jesus Christ*) What did God promise about Jesus Christ? (*He would reign as King over God's people forever and ever. He would defeat the enemies of God's people and bring eternal peace to His subjects*) **SAY** God's Kingdom is made up of all the people who have true and living faith. All these people are members of God's true church. Jesus Christ is their Savior. He also is King over their lives. He will lead them and help them to follow and obey Him. He will protect them from the enemies of their souls, Satan, sin and death. **ASK** Wouldn't you want to serve a King who did all this for you? (Pause) **SAY** If Jesus is your Savior, He lives in your heart, and you will want to serve Him and obey Him. **SAY** Our New Testament Bible lesson describes a time when Jesus showed the people that He had come to be their King. Let's read it from the Bible. Find Matthew 21:1-11. **APPOINT** pupils to read the various parts:

EXPLANATION: vs. 1-2a

JESUS: vs. 2b-3

EXPLANATION: vs. 4

PROPHET'S WORDS: vs. 5

EXPLANATION: vs. 6-9a

SONG OF THE MULTITUDES: vs. 9b

EXPLANATION: vs. 10-11a

SONG OF THE MULTITUDES: vs. 11b

**ASK** What did the crowds shout out about Jesus? What did they call Him? (*Son of David*) How did they praise and welcome Him? (*They said He was their King. They cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." They cried out, "Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord."*) **SAY** Find the last paragraph of this lesson. It begins, "Jesus came to be your King..." Let's read it together. Lead pupils to read it in unison. **ASK** What did Jesus do for you as your King? (*Defeated sin and death and delivered you from these enemies.*) **SAY** The lesson closes by saying, "As citizens of His Kingdom, we love our King Jesus because He first loved us and gave His life for us."

## APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON

### Memory Work

**BIBLE VERSE**— Revelation 11:15b

*“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.”*

**CATECHISM**—READ

*The Second Article of Redemption*

*And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; . . .*

What does this mean?

*I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord; . . .*

“begotten of the Father” - Jesus is the true Son of God, the Heavenly Father.

“from eternity” - From eternity means always. God's Son existed always, long before He became man and was born. He existed before the world was created. He is eternal. There never was a time when God's Son did not exist. He was God's Son from eternity and He always will exist and will be God's Son.

### Activity Pages

#### Activity 1—An Exciting Day

ANSWERS

1. J(E)RUSALEM
2. (C)OMES
3. HIG(H)EST
4. PE(A)CE
5. K(I)NG
6. DE(A)TH
7. (H)IS
8. ZECHARIAH
9. No. Some had forgotten the prophecy and thought that He came to defeat the Romans.

#### Activity 2—Jesus Is My King

ANSWERS

Circle numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10

## CLOSING THE LESSON

### Closing Prayer

*Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross for us in order to be our Savior. Thank you for making Jesus our King. Give us the faith to trust in Him. Forgive us all our sins. We have not loved Jesus the way we should. We have not put Him first in our lives. Help us to know how much you have done for us to save us. Live your life in us and help us to love and serve Jesus as our King. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

### Assignment

1. Remind students to complete any unfinished activities, to re-read the lesson at home and tell their families and friends about Jesus their King.
2. Enlist students' cooperation in memorizing and reviewing Bible verses and catechism.
3. Remind students to bring Bibles to class.