

The King of Christmas: The Seed of the Woman

Series Intro

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Ultimate King

Luke 1:30-33 (ESV) - In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name **Jesus**. He will be great and will be called the **Son of the Most High**. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over **the house of Jacob** forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

- 4 indicators of what this child will be – great, throne, reign, kingdom: a king!
- 4 indicators of who this child will be – Jesus, of David, of Jacob, of the Most High: the Ultimate king
- 4 indicators linked to 4 promises which prophesied the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, the Ultimate King

This week we will look at the prophecy of a promised saviour known as the seed of the woman. We will see that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Ultimate King

Prayer

Genesis 3:15 (NASB) - *And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her seed;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise him on the heel.”*

Genesis 3:15 (ESV) - *I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”*

Christ is the ultimate King because he saves us from sin.

1. The Prospect

Adam's prospect at creation was to be a servant king on earth and a son to God. God created Adam in His image and likeness.

"Image" portrays Adam as servant king and "likeness" portrays Adam as son.

- Creation of man – **Genesis 1:26-27** (ESV)
 - Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

- Extra-biblical evidence supports image = king, likeness = son

○ Image

- **Genesis 1:28** (ESV) - And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and **subdue** it, and have **dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
- **Psalm 8:3-8** (ESV) *Genesis in mind with creation mentioned, a commentary on the creation narrative, and then crowned with glory/honour/dominion*

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?
Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly
beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
You have given him dominion over the works of your
hands;
you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and
oxen,
and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the
heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes
along the paths of the seas.

- Likeness
 - **Genesis 5:1-3** (ESV) *Adam to God = Seth to Adam*
 This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.
 - **Luke 3:38** (ESV) - the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.
- God required Adam, in his kingship and sonship, to relate to God with **faithfulness and loyal love, obedience and trust**
 - **Psalms 117** (ESV) *a summary of the entire Psalms*
 Praise the LORD, all nations!
 Extol him, all peoples!
 For great is his steadfast love toward us,
 and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
 Praise the LORD!
 - This is how God relates to us

God wanted a monarch whom he could relate to as a son and who would rule over creation as a servant king. This relationship was to be characterised by “faithfulness and loyal love, obedience and trust” (Kingdom through Covenant 195).

God is still looking for sons and daughters

God is still calling children to reign with Him

2. The Problem

Sin disqualified Adam from ruling and severed his relationship with God. Adam did not relate to God as a son and king who was faithful, loyal, and loving. He was not obedient and he did not trust God.

- Adam sinned
 - **Genesis 2:16-17** (ESV) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
 - **Genesis 3:6** (ESV) So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.
- Disqualified to rule – Satan (serpent – Rev 12:9) becomes our ruler and master and his tool for enslaving us is sin. Severed relationship – children of wrath. Sin makes slaves of rulers and orphans of children.
 - **Ephesians 2:1-3** (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.
 - **Romans 6:17** (ESV) But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

Sin and sins:

- to see the gravity and seriousness of sin and its effects and our need for a saviour
- to see the glory, beauty, and majesty of One who **could** save us, indeed One who **has** saved us, One who **will** save others

Metaphors

- Death: “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked” (Eph. 2:1)
- Darkness: “Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds” (Eph. 4:17).
- Hardness: “They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity” (Eph. 4:18-19).
- Bondage: “We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin” (Rom. 6:6).
- Blindness: “And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God” (2 Cor. 4:3-4).
- Flesh: “For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live” (Rom. 8:13).

Faculties – Romans 3:11-18

- Mind: “no one understands” (v. 11).
- Will: “no one seeks for God” (v. 11).
- Actions: “All have turned aside. . . . No one does good, not even one” (v. 12).
- Words: “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive. The venom of asps is under their lips. Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness” (vv. 13-14).
- Ways: “Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known” (vv. 15-17).
- Attitude: “There is no fear of God before their eyes” (v. 18).

Do you view sin as such?

Do you recognize its influences you in these areas?

Do you understand your vital need for a saviour?

3. The Promise

God promises a seed who will defeat the serpent by saving us from sin. He will be the servant king and son that Adam was not.

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The seed of a woman

- Offspring – both plural and singular
- The seed of the serpent – enemies of God
- The seed of the woman – people of God and the son of God
- Protoevangelium – the first gospel proclamation
 - Adam believed and had faith naming his wife Eve
 - **Genesis 3:20** (ESV) The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.
- Cain? The promise is immediately followed by the birth of a son...the seed?
- Saul? Israel’s first king – Nahash means serpent, king of the ammonites, came against Israel, Saul defeated him, they made Saul king

Do you see the great faithfulness and loyal love of God? He took initiative to fix a problem he didn’t create. He remained faithful though we are disloyal. We should worship god in gratitude for his mercy and grace.

4. The Provision

Jesus Christ the Son of God is the ultimate King who defeats the serpent and saves us from sin.

- The promise is fulfilled!
- We have a Saviour who has defeated the serpent through his own wounds.
 - **Hebrews 2:14-15** (ESV) Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.
 - **Ephesians 2:4-9** (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- Not yet:
 - **Revelation 17:14** (ESV) They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”
- Jesus is the Son and Servant King who displayed faithfulness and loyal love, obedience and trust towards God the Father. Through his faithfulness, loyal love, obedience, and trust in God he has saved us.

Is he your king? Have you kneeled before the Ultimate King in recognition and acceptance of his royal authority over you? It is only in doing this that you can be saved. It is only by doing this that you can transfer from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light; from being a seed of the serpent to being a child of God. Will you recognize Jesus as the Ultimate King this Christmas season?

Acts 2:21 (ESV) And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

2 Corinthians 6:2 (ESV) Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.