**Scripture Reading:** 1 Thess. 1

**Singing:** 395:1-4 – 302:1-3 – 87:1-3 – 124:1-5

Intro: Behold the glory of the King of Kings!

A. He breaks the bondage of idolatry to bring into liberty (1 Thess 1:9)

B. His weapons to do so are amazing (1 Thess. 1:5; 2:13)

C. His Kingly ministry is the *crowning glory* of the Mediator

**The Glory of the Name Christ (3)**

I. He is chief Prophet and Teacher II. He is only capable High Priest

III. He is the almighty and eternal King

III. The glory of the Almighty and Eternal King Jesus Christ

A. Christ’s prophetic and priestly work are steps towards His ultimate glory

 1. Only way He acquired that position is through *obedience* (Phil. 2:5-9)

 2. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross: *what was this joy?*

 a. His Father’s glory

 b. His people’s salvation: *sinners restored into the beauty of God*

B. Are you one of these *conquered subjects of Jesus Christ already?*

 1. Has Christ exercised His Kingly office in your heart/life?

 a. grace discovers itself in the most traceable evidence of true religion

• Romans 8:29 – Eph. 1:4

 b. this evidence is always found in context of *intense warfare*

 • Gal. 5:17

**C.** How does Christ exercise this Kingly office in sinner’s hearts?

 1. He makes *Word of God powerful – convicting – humbling* (1 Thess. 1:5)

 a. we **all** **resist** His ministry *but Christ’s sweet power breaks this*

 b. all taught by Christ become *willing in day of His power*

• nothing more liberating but when *we finally surrender*

 c. Is this King gaining more and more victory in you? How know?

 2. He also exercises His Kingly office with regard to His priestly work

 a. nothing we more resist than *to bow to sceptre of grace alone*

 b. only Jesus’ royal power can break these bonds of unbelief and its

 various children

3. He ultimately exercises His Kingly office to govern, defend and preserve

His children in essence of that salvation He has purchased

 a. what is essence?

 b. against this essence, our old nature and our old lord wage war till

 the end of our earthly existence

• since he can’t rob God’s Church of salvation, Satan will do all

 to keep her from or rob her of the enjoyment of this salvation

• backsliding can be in *doctrine and in walk of life*

 c. it is through this strife that Christ works the ‘growing in grace’

 which leads to the ‘victory of grace’

Finally: *What is your ‘beloved’ more than this Beloved Lord Jesus Christ?*

**The Lordship of Jesus Christ**

As Christ is the root by which the saint grows, so is He the rule by which the saints walk.

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He values not Christ at all who does not value Christ above all. (Augustine)

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Jesus cannot be our Savior when He is not also our Lord. (Burr)

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I have a great need for Christ; I have a great Christ for my need. (Spurgeon)

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For the true Christian the one supreme test for the present soundness and ultimate worth of everything religious must be the place our Lord Jesus Christ occupies in it. (Tozer)