

I Corinthians 9:25, "Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a **crown** that will not last, but we do it to get a **crown** that will last forever."

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REVIEW - "Life of Jesus" Summary of Previous Courses {Teaching Notes}

His Jewish people and all people longing for the hope

Born into a Greek Thinking, Roman Ruling World

Birth of the One - the anointed one; the Messiah

* 200 year span before and after Jesus, we know of 10-12 other Jewish Messianic movements. (Josephus)

Lived an ordinary life waiting on His Father

"Immersed" Himself in the battle against spiritual & earthly kingdoms

Preaching, Teaching and Healing - the Kingdom of God

Kingdom revealed (Matthew 4:17, 23; 5:2, 6:33...)

Convicted and killed as a criminal

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I. INSTRUCTION *The Crown*

“You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”
John 18:37

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“The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe.”

“When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!”” John 19:2 & 5

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Matthew 27:29, “Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said.”

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I. INVESTIGATION *The Crown*

What concept is central to the culture and mission of Jesus of Nazareth?

One of History’s greatest forces on 27 B.C.... Roman Empire

Jesus was born in Bethlehem because... Caesar’s taxation (Luke 2)

Jesus & Pontius square off on... K of G vs. K of Caesar (John 18 & 19)

Paul in Rome announcing... God as King and Jesus as Lord (Acts 28)

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Hebrews 2:9, “But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now **crowned** with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.”

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* Crowning - Jehoiada brought out the king’s son and put the **crown** on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant and proclaimed him king. They anointed him, and the people clapped their hands and shouted, “Long live the king!” II Kings 11:12

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Jesus dies as the King of the Jews who brings to its total conclusion the long story of Yahweh's victory over the powers of the world. The New Covenant & New Creation are being launched throughout the gospel stories. We are not saved simply for God and His people to be together to have a nice time. But to reign on the Earth. God wants His world to ruled by humbled, forgiven sinners (John 21) God wants to put the world right so he puts people right so they can be putting people right.

NT Wright, *How God Became King*

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I - INTEGRATION - *The Crown*

Q1 - What are you thoughts on the following by NT Wright:

"The melody is not, 'Look, Jesus is divine.' Rather, 'Look, here is God becoming King.' It is possible to check the Creedal boxes and miss the larger reality towards which they are the signposts." (John 18:37)

Q2 - Why is a crown of thorns fitting for our King? (Philippians 2:5-9)

Q3 - How does this King's reign influence the thorny situations in my daily life?

II. INSTRUCTION - *The Victor*

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Revelation 13:11-13, "11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God."

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The Victor was...

Powerful

Personal

Permanent - Resurrected from death

Patient

* Willard on "Death"

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The Quiet Resurrection - **John 20:14-16**

"14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

15 He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

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"The way God rescues people from sin and death is by overthrowing all the powers that held them captive. The way he does that is not with superior fire power of the same kind but with a different sort of power that is let loose transformatively in the world through Jesus death & resurrection and which will work until every knee will bow at His name.

The story of the Evangelists is telling is a single story. The shadow of the Cross falls over the proclamation of the Kingdom. And the Kingdom meaning is built solidly and intricately into the narrative of the Cross. The Cross doesn't achieve something other than the Kingdom of God but rather is the victory of the Kingdom Bringer.

NT Wright, How God Became King

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II - INVESTIGATION *The Victor*

Acts 10:39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, **40** but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. **41** He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **42** He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. **43** All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

TEACHING NOTES:

Dallas Willard

Post Resurrection - I would have gone back to Pontius Pilate and said,

"Can we have that conversation about truth again?"

I would have visited the Sanhedrin in session.

Even after the resurrection, he was conspiring quietly. (Acts 10:41)

>>>>> The Historical Resurrection of Jesus

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0Dc01HVlaM>

[2:23]

II.INTEGRATION *The Victor*

Q1 - If you were Jesus just resurrected, to whom would you make your first appearance?

Q2 - What is "death" to you now followed by the resurrection?

Q3 - Where do you see the Kingdom at work? Where have (are) you missed (missing) God in the garden?

II - SUMMARY

The King's crown bestowed life on me. The Victor's triumph ended my death. The King's table awaits me.

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III. INSTRUCTION *Kingdom Living as the King’s Sons & Daughters*

II Timothy 4:8, “Now there is in store for me the **crown** of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

James 1:12, “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the **crown** of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

Luke 12:32 - You Father desires to give you the Kingdom.

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“When we talk about Kingdom living, we are talking about a life of learning how you live in the Kingdom of God. If we get that point then everything in the New Testament is accessible to everyone.”

Willard, The Kingdom as Reality, Church of the Open Door, 11/04

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III - INVESTIGATION - “Our Coronation”

I Corinthians 9:25, “Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a **crown** that will not last, but we do it to get a **crown** that will last forever.”

I Peter 1:4, “And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the **crown** of glory that will never fade away.”

Revelation 2:10, “Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s **crown**.”

Revelation 3:11, “I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your **crown**.”

Philippians 1:21, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

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“Temptation is your greatest opportunity to know the Kingdom.”

TEACHING NOTES: Willard -

"Trials are temptations to sin. If we take it as a temptation to know the kingdom, we don't do what we are tempted to do then watch for the hand of God. If you are running your own kingdom, you won't be able to that. Temptation is always the temptation to not trust God. Every temptation we have is an occasion to say I won't do that, I will what is right - to conform to the law is a way of seeking the Kingdom. You can't do it on your own but you don't have to. God will help. But if you turn your back on God, you'll never see Him acting."

Willard, "The Kingdom as Reality", Church of the Open Door, 11/04

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III - INTEGRATION **Kingdom Living**

Personal Questions

- Q1 - Where am I living like I am a child of a pauper outside the castle wall while a feast of royal proportions awaits me at the King's Table?
- Q2 - What practice will I intentionally pursue to more fully "Think Jesus" and "Practice Habits of Goodness with Jesus" as His devoted apprentice?
- Q3 - Who do I love whom I would love to know the Spirit of love of the Father & His Son?

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SUMMARY - As the Father loves me, that's the love I have proven to you. Now, as my friend, walk with me in love and together let's immerse your loved ones into the blessed Kingdom life I have for them.

CLOSING

"And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." Malachi 4:6

"He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Luke 1:17

"Children's children are a **crown** to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children." Proverbs 17:6

Kingdom Living TEACHING NOTES

The greatest challenge of the people of Jesus Christ today is to stand in our world as representing knowledge of reality with love and intelligence to show that we have that knowledge by the lives that we lead."

Willard, The DC Lectures, #1 1:06:40+

WILLARD - *The Divine Conspiracy* - God's plan to overcome evil with good in the grinding processes of human nature. The Kingdom works that way.

You are tied into the reality of the Kingdom of God that is going to bring to pass that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of God.

Isaiah 6 - The earth is filled with the glory of God but not the knowledge of the glory of God until the future. Isaiah is faced with God in the temple. "Here am I. Send me." The knowledge of God is painfully absent. The future is where the Earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God.

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What to do with my neighbor? Ask, "Are you a friend of Jesus?" (Jn 15)

Jesus is calling us to his love as the community of life in the Spirit under His administration That love translates into doing the things he said. The Sermon on the Mount is an expression of love of someone who has come into the Kingdom of God and has been gradually transformed by it. Jesus is not giving a law, He is illustrating a life. In a community of his friends, they keep His commandments. Anger doesn't run the show. Can we disagree? Of course. But they don't have to be angry. They can't act in love.

You don't ask, "What's going to happen to me?" You will still be alive in the gracious Kingdom of God. You don't have to run the world but you still have to make decisions. In a community of love, you are free and expected to make decisions in a framework of people who understand what their Master is about.

Q - What does it mean to live in a "God bathed world like Jesus?"

A - Jesus offers ridiculous confidence in the presence of the Kingdom. "Why worry? Look at the birds." Well, you're not sure He is in charge. Now if you come to the place where you can see the World as a perfectly safe place for us to be, you will have an incredible effect on everyone around you. Those who believe on me from their bellies will flow rivers of living water. The center of where they live There is something within you that is so different that people can not not be effected by it. They still need to talk because they won't understand it. Peter talks about people happy in suffering. Willard, *The Kingdom as Reality*, Church of the Open Door, 11/04

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Listening Options - NT Wright, How God Became King

Long Interview - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEHliSDNxa4>

Short Interview - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDWcvGOBOhU>

The Resurrection

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N79r-hdwn5o>

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