



-- Big Idea: Christmas is the birth of the one King who will rule all people forever.

1.) Old Testament history constantly points to a coming KING (v. 37).

- Genesis ends with the promise of a coming King sent from God who will rule over all nations (Gen. 49:10, Rev. 5:5).
- Moses' song of triumph over Egypt tells about God's eternal king to come (Exodus 15:17-18).
- The Old Testament prophets of Israel consistently tell of a forever King from the line of David, who will rule as King forever (Isa. 9:7, Dan. 2:44).
- The long-awaited hope of all of these events—indeed, of all Old Testament history—arrives in the BIRTH of Christ (Luke 1:32-33).

2.) CHRISTMAS is the birth of long-awaited King.

- Our Lord's birth is in no way accidental or coincidental, but rather the specific plan and purpose of God (Micah 5:2, Galatians 4:4-5).
- At present, Christ's Kingdom is an "already / not yet" kingdom (Hebrews 2:8-9, Matthew 25:31).

3.) Christ's kingdom will endure FOREVER

- Revelation 11:15, Colossians 1:15-18
- The sovereign supremacy of Christ over all has already happened. We are just waiting to see it made complete.

4.) Christ's kingdom is not of this WORLD (v. 36)

- How could God's forever King end up on a cross? Because His kingdom is not of this world.
- Because Jesus was fighting for a kingdom not of this world, He was free to let go of things to which the world clings to with all its might.
- If we are living for God's kingdom, then we are free to **LET GO** of all sorts of things that we would otherwise cling to firmly.
- Never willingly allow desires for worldly gain to stifle the work of God's kingdom in and through you.

5.) Everyone must **RESPOND** to the Kingship of Christ (v. 33-35).

- Christmas is about the entrance into the world of the King of Kings to whom every person must make a response and give an account (Philippians 2:9-11).
- v. 34 – What matters most to our Lord in this conversation with Pilate is not that Pilate's question be answered but that the **ROOT** of his question is exposed.
 - *Do you really care in your heart of hearts that Jesus is King, or are you more like an actor on a stage playing out a part?*
- v. 35 – In response to the most important question he had ever been or would ever be asked, Pilate **CHANGES** the subject.
 - *Is it your heart's desire to know Christ and serve Him as the one eternal King of all? Or would you rather avoid the issue and pretend like it doesn't pertain to you?*
 - *Will you confess that Jesus Christ is King and Lord unto the glory of God the Father?*