

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE

LIVE LIKE THE KING'S SON

Mark 8:34, 10:43-45

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. - Gal. 6:14

1. Children of God – “live like the King's kids”?? No.

Romans 8:15-17a (where we were last Sunday) –

Praise God for the gift of adoption as God's children.

Then “live like a king's kid!” - a popular slogan in some circles

Meaning what? Meaning you don't have to be stuck struggling to pay debts, grieving over family woes, wracked with illness.

You're a child of the King. You belong in a palace.

Learn to live by faith & pray by faith, and God will deliver you from all your want and woe & fill your life with good things.

Pain and suffering don't need to be part of your life!

That is a very appealing message. Our Creator hard-wired us for pain-avoidance & pleasure-seeking. They are natural.

but (1) sin has turned them into something idolatrous.

& (2) read the end of **Romans 8:17** “*..if we suffer* with Him ...”

Pain-avoidance & pleasure-seeking have their place,

but not as the guiding principles of a Christian's life.

2. Yes, live like the Son of the King (God's Son, Jesus).

This is not a slogan on a wrist-band (WWJD), but a basic mind-set to which Jesus calls us when He calls us to Himself for salvation.

See what he says in **Mark 8:34,35** and **10:43-45**.

Jesus was not speaking just to future apostles, but to everyone who wants a place in the Kingdom of God.

He points to Himself & to the path He is following ... to the Cross, as the model for us.

Peter: “No, Lord, you won't be rejected and die!”

Wrong! He does not understand what his salvation must cost.

Disciples: “Who gets to have the highest honors in the kingdom?”

Wrong! They don't understand the mission of their King - to give Himself as a ransom for their souls.

As ATONEMENT for sin, the cross of Jesus & His self-giving there are absolutely unique & nothing we can repeat or copy.

Yet Jesus says to us: “Deny yourself and take up your cross ...”

“Never mind about honors & power; strive to be servants - like your King.”

Saving faith in Jesus commits us to live under the cross – to be willing to say “No!” to our sinful desires and “Yes!” to God's will even when it may lead us to great loss, suffering, & death.

When it seems that obedience to Jesus & honoring Him may mean pain & suffering for us ... *take up your cross*, be willing to suffer with Christ, glory in His cross (Gal.6:14), that you may be glorified with Him in due time.