

# How Should a King Come?

Immense crowds line the streets. Trumpets and banners herald his approach. Rank after rank of royal guardsmen lead the procession, followed by a band of the finest musicians in the land. Local dignitaries stand stiffly at attention, then bow as the richly robed King steps down from his coach of gold. The people cheer for their Sovereign. Faces show their respect, love, awe, and . . . yes, a little fear in the presence of the King.

Yet . . . when the universe's Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ, visited His people, how did the King come? No room in the inn, His virgin mother gave birth in a dark, dirty stable. Simple shepherds visited – no dignitaries. Hay was His bedding – not silk sheets. The Creator, Judge, and Lord of all became one of us, helpless as an infant, subject and obedient to His earthly parents as He grew up.

Only as one of us, "in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin," could He be our one and only High Priest, offering the perfect sacrifice in judicial payment for our sins, our crimes. Sacrifice? A lamb without blemish? No, the Passover lamb was a symbol. The reality is that only the blood of the Son of God could redeem us.



What was the Cross about? Jesus walked into Jerusalem knowing He would be crucified – a horrible, vicious form of execution. He willingly gave His life for your sins and for mine. When He raised Himself from the dead, He proclaimed victory over death – man's biggest problem, by far – and He proved His credibility.

You'd rather trust your religion or your own 'goodness'? But "there is none righteous, no, not one." How many sins does it take to condemn you to Hell? Ever get angry? **Anger = murder** in God's eyes.

**Lust = adultery.** (Porn counts, too.) Ever tell a lie? **One** sin, one time, is enough to condemn you. How about selfishness, greed, foul language? Are you a thief, cheating on your taxes, or swiping a pen from work, or shirking on the job?

What must you do? **Repent.** Humble yourself. Confess your sins to God. Turn from them! Trust in the Lord Jesus, who died for you, rose again, and offers eternal life if you follow Him. Then read your Bible and obey it. Encourage other believers and share the Good News with them. The stakes are infinite. Don't be a rebel. Bow to your King.

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