

# Who is Jesus?

## King of Righteousness

### Points to Consider

1. He is a King Who is Righteous
2. We are People who are Unrighteous
3. He is the King Who Makes us Righteousness

### He is a King Who is Righteousness

**Heb 7:1-3** *For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace," 3 without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually. NKJV*

Jesus and Melchizedek were both **kings** and priests. We will examine the brief encounter Abraham had with Melchizedek in a future lesson.

The name Melchizedek is a compound of the words king and righteousness.

Jesus is the king of **righteousness**.

Righteousness - "...in the broad sense, the state of him who is such as he **ought** to be" - Thayer's  
Jesus is exactly how He ought to be. He is perfect!

**John 7:16-19** *Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. 17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. 18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. 19 Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?" NKJV*

Since Jesus sought the glory of His **father** there is no unrighteousness in Him.

**John 8:45-47** *But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God. NKJV*

Jesus knew that the Jews could not convict Him of sin because He was **without** sin.

**1 Peter 2:21-24** *For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; 23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously...*

While suffering Jesus committed **no** sin. He didn't even sin with his tongue. . Jesus had **total** control over the hardest part of the body to control - His tongue. (James 2:1) - Perfect man

The Jewish leaders could not find sin in Jesus, Pilate could not find sin in Jesus and **Peter** could not find sin in Jesus.

**Heb 4:15** *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.* NKJV

Jesus was **tempted**, yet He never sinned.

**1 Peter 1:17-20** *And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.* NKJV

Jesus is **without** blemish and without spot. He is, always has been and always will be as He ought to be.

## We are People Who are Unrighteous

**Rom 1:28-32** *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.* NKJV

Based on God's righteous judgment, the unrighteous are **deserving** of death.

**Rom 2:5-9** *But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness — indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek.* NKJV

The righteous judgment of God pours out indignation, wrath, tribulation and anguish on **all** men who obey unrighteousness.

**Rom 3:10-12** *As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."* NKJV

Paul quotes from Psalm 14 and Psalm 53 when He said "there is **none** who does good, no, not one."

## He is the King Who Makes Us Righteous

**Matt 25:37-40** *"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' NKJV*

We know that the righteous will inherit eternal life.

How can a righteous God legally declare someone innocent when they are so obviously guilty?

**Rom 5:18-19** *Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. NKJV*

Christ justified us and made us righteous.

**Rom 3:21-26** *But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that **is in Christ Jesus**, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by **His blood**, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the **one who has faith in Jesus**. NKJV*

**Justified (24)** - primarily "to deem to be right," signifies, in the NT, (a) "to show to be right or righteous"; in the passive voice, to be justified, Matt 11:19; Luke 7:35; Rom 3:4; 1 Tim 3:16; (b) "to declare to be righteous, to pronounce righteous," (1) by man, concerning God, Luke 7:29 (see Rom 3:4, above); concerning himself, Luke 10:29; 16:15; (2) by God concerning men, who are declared to be righteous before Him on certain conditions laid down by Him. (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright © 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers.)

**Grace** - an undeserved gift.

**Redemption (24)** - denotes "redemption" (apo, "from," lutron, "a price of release"). In Heb 11:35 it is translated "deliverance"; usually the release is effected by the payment of a ransom, or the required price, the lutron (ransom). Vine's Dictionary

**Propitiation (24)** - relating to appeasing or expiating, having placating or expiating force, expiatory. (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon)

Jesus is our **redeemer** (He is the ransom price) and He is our appeaser.

**Acts 13:38-40** *Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. NKJV*

The one who believes in Jesus is justified.

The law of Moses could not justify.

**Rom 5:8-11** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died for us**. 9 Much more then, having now been justified **by His blood**, we shall be **saved from wrath through Him**. 10 For if when we were enemies we **were reconciled to God through the death of His Son**, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His life**. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom we have now received the reconciliation**. NKJV

We are justified by Jesus' **blood**.

**Titus 3:4-7** But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly **through Jesus Christ our Savior**, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. NKJV

We are **not** saved by works of righteousness.

We are saved by His **mercy**.

We are justified by His **grace**.

**James 2:21-24** Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. 24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. NKJV

We are justified by works. We are justified by an **obedient** faith.

**Rom 6:16-19** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. 19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. NKJV

Those who are slaves of **obedience** become righteous.

Summary - We are not justified by works of the law of Moses or by works of righteousness. We are justified by faith in Jesus, by the blood of Jesus, by God's grace, and by works.

**Everything we want is found in Jesus!**

## **Points We Considered**

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