

COMMUNITAS

Jesus (part 7)

The offering for the world

It seems to me that the themes of kingship and sacrifice are inseparably linked in the gospel accounts. The coming king, the king to be enthroned, is to be an offering-sacrifice for the world. An utterly reversed demonstration of power and position.

1. The parable of the vineyard (Matt 21:33-44)
2. The offerings of welcome (Matt 2:7-12)
3. The temptations (Matt 4:1-11)
4. True kingship
 - Not to use position to accumulate wealth for himself
 - He lives under/fulfilling Torah
 - He embodies the covenant of Israel with Yahweh (so must be of the people, a worshipper)
 - Deut 16:18-7:20

5. Three death prophecies

Announcement of Jesus' Death	Failure on the Part of the Disciples	Jesus Teaches on Discipleship
Jesus will suffer, be rejected, killed, and will rise after three days (8:31)	Peter rebukes Jesus (8:32-33)	Jesus commands them to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him (8:33-9:1)
Jesus will be delivered, killed, and will rise after three days (9:30-31)	The disciples do not understand the saying and are afraid to ask him about it (9:32)	Jesus teaches that the first must be last and that those who receive children in his name receive him (9:33-50)
Jesus will be delivered, condemned, mocked, flogged, killed, and will rise after three days (10:33-34)	James and John ask that they may sit next to Jesus in his glory (10:35-37)	Jesus teaches that, to be great, they must become servants; to be first, they must become slaves; and that he came to serve by giving his life as a ransom for many (10:38-45)

6. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-11)

7. The crucifixion

There are three elements to an enthronement:

- A cloak
- A crown
- A staff (Mark 15:16-20)

And then Jesus is enthroned on a cross. The gospels really see the cross as Jesus becoming King, not the resurrection. The resurrection is the vindication of Jesus – the death of Jesus is the pinnacle of the revelation of God (and his cruciform nature).