October 25, 2026 The King is Coming

(Series Info)

Burning Words

We live in a world full of voices competing for our attention. But volume doesn't equal truth. In Burning Words, we'll hear from voices in Scripture whose messages still speak to the struggles we face today-calling us from compromise to conviction, fear to faith, and wandering back to God. Because God's truth doesn't change with culture... and some messages are too important to ignore.

This week's message will be given by Pastor Matt Pineda.

(Personal Fun Facts)

If you knew that someone you deeply respected was coming to spend a week in your home, what would you do differently in the days leading up to their arrival?

(Takeaways)

What was a major takeaway moment during the sermon this week?

(Big Idea)

The coming of Jesus Christ is not simply an event we anticipate. It is a reality that reshapes our loyalties, transforms our lives, and gives urgency to our mission.

(Discussion)

Scripture: 2 Kings 16:5–9 and Isaiah 9:2–7 The King We Trust

Isaiah's prophecy about the coming King was spoken into a world of political instability, fear, and misplaced trust. King Ahaz faced genuine threats from surrounding nations. His fear was understandable. His response, however, revealed something deeply troubling about his relationship with God. Rather than trusting the Lord, Ahaz sought security through an alliance with Assyria. He even took resources from the temple to secure that protection. It's rather ironic … to preserve his kingdom, Ahaz surrendered some of its independence. The very ones he trusted for security would eventually become a source of oppression.

1) How can we distinguish between simply exercising responsible wisdom and allowing fear to displace our trust and confidence in God? In other words, where are

some of the modern ways we Christians seek security, identity, or even significance that could compromise our allegiance to Christ?

2) What is the difference between *believing* Jesus is the King and actually allowing Him to reign over the decisions, relationships, and priorities of our lives?

Scripture: Luke 17:20–21; Colossians 1:15–20; Hebrews 2:8–9; Revelation 11:15 The King Who Reigns

One thing you should know by now, the Kingdom of God (God's rule and reign) is both a present reality and a future hope. It's like we have one foot in the Kingdom now, and one foot in the future. You may have heard this referred to as the "already and the not yet" of God's Kingdom. When Jesus came into the world, He did not simply announce that God's Kingdom would someday arrive. He proclaimed that the Kingdom had drawn near … at that moment. Through His ministry, death, resurrection, and exaltation, the reign of God was decisively inaugurated.

3) How does understanding the Kingdom of God (the reign and rule of God) as both "already" and "not yet" help you make sense of suffering, injustice, and unanswered prayer?

4) Isaiah describes the coming King as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Which of these descriptions most challenges the way our world understands power and leadership in your opinion? Which of these gives you the best understanding of who Jesus is? Why?

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:8–14; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21 Hope that Produces Holiness and Mission

All through the New Testament, the return of Jesus is more than just an event that will happen one day in the future. It is a present truth that should affect and transform how we live today. As Peter indicates here, God's apparent delay of Jesus' return is not because God isn't able to fulfill His promises, but it points to God's patience and His desire that all people come to repentance. We often think of this waiting time as empty time … but it is not! Perhaps this is a time when we are experiencing God's divine mercy and an opportunity for us to faithfully witness to the world around us. As Peter says, "What kind of people ought we be?"

5) Why do you think the New Testament (see the 2 Peter passage) emphasizes holiness rather than giving us more information about when Jesus will return?

6) How do you see yourself as an ambassador for Christ? How might this image change the way we approach conversations with people who do not share our faith?

7) Who might God be inviting you to love more intentionally as an ambassador of Christ? Explain.

Personal Application: Living Ready for the King

- Examine Your Allegiance
    - What are the things that currently occupy your thoughts, shape your decisions, and give you a sense of security?
    - Where are you most tempted to trust something other than Christ?
    - Where are you still resisting the authority of Christ in your life?
- Consider Your Formation
    - Where do you see evidence of the character of Jesus taking more shape in you in the person you are becoming?
    - What spiritual practice (discipline) do you include in your life that allows you to become more like Jesus?
- Embrace Your Mission
    - Who needs to hear the message of Jesus from you?
    - Who do you need to have a conversation with? Or, who do you need to spend more intentional time with reflecting who Christ is in your life?

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus,
You are the King who has come and the King who will come again. Forgive us for the ways we have placed our confidence in lesser things and allowed the concerns of this world to distract us from Your Kingdom.

Teach us to live with hope rather than fear, with faithfulness rather than complacency, and compassion rather than indifference.

Form our character within us so that our lives reflect the reality of Your reign in us. May we serve You faithfully as we await your glorious return.
In Your name we pray,
Amen.