The King and the Cross
Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020 • Tim McCoy, Lead Pastor

12 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” 14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

15 “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!” (John 12:12-15, ESV)

Three Questions
(1) Have you ____________________________ King Jesus into your life by repenting of sin and believing in him?
(2) Does King Jesus reign on the ______________________ of your life today?
(3) Will you __________________ with King Jesus even when the going gets tough, even when it’s costly to follow him?

One of the earliest Christians symbols was a ________________ (Greek, ichthus).

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Options for a universally accepted emblem that points to Jesus:

1. ___________________ - pointing to his miraculous birth

2. **Carpenter’s tools or bench** – dignifying the manual labor of his youth

3. ___________________ – from which he often taught the crowds in Galilee

4. **Basin & ___________________** – that he wore while washing the apostle’s feet

5. **Stone** – that was rolled from the tomb at his resurrection

6. **Throne** – symbol of his sovereignty and reign as King

7. **Dove** - symbol of the Holy Spirit poured out at Pentecost

“Any of these seven symbols would have been suitable as a pointer to some aspect of the ministry of the Lord. But instead the chosen symbol came to be a simple cross. Its two bars were already a cosmic symbol from remote antiquity of the axis between heaven and earth. But it’s choice by Christians had a more specific explanation. They wished to commemorate as central to their understanding of Jesus neither his birth nor his youth, neither his teaching nor his service, neither his resurrection nor his reign, nor his gift of the Spirit, but his death, his crucifixion.” (John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*, pp. 21).

1. **When he died on the cross for our sins** – Jesus took the ___________________ our sins deserved as our ___________________.

4. Surely he has borne our griefs
   and carried our sorrows;
   yet we esteemed him stricken,
   smitten by God, and afflicted.

5. But he was pierced for our transgressions;
   he was crushed for our iniquities;
   upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
   and with his wounds we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:4-6, ESV)

2. When he died on the cross for our sins – Jesus paid the __________________ that secured our ________________ from the captivity of sin.

45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45, ESV)

3. When he died on the cross for our sins – Jesus ___________________ the ___________________ we owe for our sin by nailing it to the cross.

13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. (Colossians 2:13-14, ESV)

4. When he died on the cross for our sins – Jesus __________________ away the stains of our sins and made us ___________________ as snow.

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” 14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” (Revelation 7:13-14, ESV)
**A Chapter a Day**

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