

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - KING OF THE UNIVERSE.

November 20; Lk 23:35-43

Today let us focus on the kingship of Jesus. It was usual to have a “Charge Sheet” (notice) hung on the neck of a criminal, and then later nailed to the criminal’s cross. It used to be written in Latin, only. Governor Pontius Pilate nailed the notice stating "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" on the cross of Jesus. This was an exceptional notice. It was written in the three most widely used languages of the time (Greek, Hebrew & Latin). This notice denoted the Universality of His Kingship. Today we believe and celebrate that **Jesus is the King Of the Universe.**

Are we members or subjects of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ? The scale used to measure the origin of our membership is the CROSS. The disciples always followed Jesus. But unfortunately, when they confronted the cross, they discarded Him. At the face of the cross they all ran away to save their lives.

Let's imagine the type of glasses one might be using to look upon the cross. When the Disciples looked through their glasses, they were frightened at the sight of the cross, lost their faith and hope in Jesus and ran away from the “way of the cross”. The good thief who was crucified along with Christ used a different set of glasses to look upon the cross of Jesus and read “Jesus is the King”. This thief believed whatever was written on the cross. In faith, he became repentant of his sins and begged the Lord for mercy and for heaven. This penitent thief was granted Paradise on the spot.

How do we face the cross? Are we frightened like the disciples? Are we repentant of our sins like the penitent thief? Try to wear the glasses of the Penitent Thief.

Jesus Christ is the King of the Universe. The earthly Kings rule their kingdoms with the tax they may collect from their subjects. King Jesus Christ does not collect any tax from his faithful people. Instead He gives them whatever He has. He granted forgiveness to the soldiers who crucified him. And He gives His beloved mother, His last drop of blood and even water from His heart to each and every one of us. He gives everything including His life for us. That's the sort of King, Jesus is.

**BE PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF JESUS' KINGDOM. LOVE HIM AND FOLLOW HIM. Amen.**