

Year A - Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

Matthew 25:31-46



The Son of Man will sit upon his seat of glory and he will separate all into two groups.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne
"The people of all nations will be brought before him, and he will separate them, as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats. "He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right,
'My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created. When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me.' "

Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask 'When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?'

"The king will answer, 'Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me.' "Then the king will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me! You are under God's curse. Go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat, and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me, and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear.

I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me.' "Then the people will ask, 'Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?' "The king will say to them, 'Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me.' " Then Jesus said, "Those people will be punished forever. But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life."



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Compassionate Hearts



Introduction

- Jesus calls us to lead with compassionate hearts, to care for others in real meaningful ways.
- In the Gospel, Jesus calls for his disciples to have compassionate hearts by responding to the needs of others.
- Jesus presents the kingdom of God as a place where the poor, the sick, and the outcast are welcomed and served.

Message

- Jesus has many names, and today we celebrate the name, Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.
- The Gospel today is right at the end of Matthew's gospel where Jesus tells a story about a king and his kingdom but not the kingdom that we would normally think of.
- In this kingdom, the people who are the most marginalised are ones that are welcomed and loved, instead of being left out.
- In this gospel Jesus challenges us to be more like him and choose to have and act with compassionate hearts.
- Having a compassionate heart looks like welcoming others, sharing a meal and providing support to others who need it
- It can even be as simple as loving and caring for others.
- When we act with compassionate hearts, we are living the kingdom of heaven.

Discussion

- Can you think of a time when some one had a compassionate heart towards you? Did they help you finish your homework or did they invite you to play at lunchtime?
- When have you acted with a compassionate heart?
- How did it make you feel?
- How did it make others feel?

