

JESUS CHRIST—EARTH'S NEW RULER

Note to the speaker:

Help the audience to put faith in Christ's rulership. Build up faith in the reality of the Messianic Kingdom. Motivate our brothers to proclaim that Kingdom

WHY NEW RULERSHIP MUST COME TO EARTH (8 min.)

Nations face crisis in good leadership

Human leaders ineffectual or corrupt; often lose people's confidence and support

Leaders have led mankind to brink of nuclear disaster

In spite of reductions in nuclear arms, remaining stockpiles could destroy humankind many times over (999 8/22 4-6)

Even if a leader proves himself to be just and wise, he eventually dies (Ps 146:3, 4)

Humans have proved to be dismal failures as leaders

This is because Jehovah did not purpose man to direct own steps independent of God (Jer 10:23; w92 10/1 27)

God has thus arranged for a heavenly government with a truly effective ruler to rule over earth (Da 7:13, 14; Mt 6:10)

Who is that Ruler? What blessings will result to those who support this God-given rule?

GOD CHOOSES EARTH'S NEW RULER (10 min.)

Jehovah has chosen his firstborn Son to be the key figure in the outworking of all of His purposes (Col 1:15, 18-20)

In harmony with this, Jesus has been installed as King of God's Kingdom (Ps 2:6; Re 19:16)

He also serves as God's appointed Judge (Ac 10:42)

Jesus is well suited to be earth's new Ruler

Even in prehuman existence, he was fond of mankind (Pr 8:30, 31)

Willingly laid down his life in sacrifice for mankind (Mt 20:28)

Thus became "the Chief Agent of life" for all mankind (Ac 3:15)

Greek term means "chief leader" (it-2 61)

He also serves as High Priest, who cleanses us from sin (Heb 7:21-25)

Jesus has done so much for mankind that he is clearly the right one to serve as earth's new Ruler

'Putting faith in the name of Jesus' is involved in gaining salvation to life (Ac 10:43; it-2 61)

No salvation from any other source (Ac 4:12)

THE FULL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NAME JESUS CHRIST (10 min.)

Jesus' name is more excellent than that of angels (Heb 1:4-13)

Expression "the Lord Jesus" or "our Lord Jesus Christ" used by Jesus' followers (Ac 8:16; 15:26)

Refers to his being appointed Owner by virtue of his ransom sacrifice (1Co 6:20)

His name also represents his full kingly and priestly authority, about which his followers preach (Ac 5:29-32)

Being granted all authority in heaven and on earth shows that Jesus heads a government of universal dominion (Mt 28:18)

Only those recognizing that name, subjecting themselves to the authority it represents, will gain life (Php 2:9-11)

Faith in his name means more than accepting him as Savior

Christians must show unbreakable loyalty to the name of God's commissioned King, the Lord Jesus Christ

Must not give allegiance to any other name or ruler as representing God's authority to rule the earth (Mt 12:18, 21)

Bearers of Jesus' name realize that they will be "objects of hatred by all the nations" (Mt 24:9)

This is due to the rulership his name represents

CORULERS WITH CHRIST IN THE KINGDOM GOVERNMENT (9 min.)

Christ's rulership is heavenly (Joh 18:36, 37)

God saw fit to give some from mankind a share in this heavenly government (Lu 12:32)

Redeems 144,000 from earth to be corulers, associate kings and priests with Christ in heaven (Re 14:1, 3; 20:6)

Like Jesus, they will be sympathetic and merciful, able to help humans of all backgrounds, applying benefits of Jesus' ransom sacrifice (Heb 2:17; 4:15)

Jesus will appoint princes as visible earthly representatives (Ps 45:16)

Way that Jesus conducted himself on earth indicates what we can expect from his heavenly rulership and his earthly princes (Mt 12:18-20)

Princes will show same self-sacrificing spirit shown by elders today (Isa 32:1, 2)

Loving interest in mankind will be shown

Subjects will be dealt with in an understanding way

Jesus' humility and kindness and his strength for righteousness and justice assure us that his rulership will surpass our highest expectations

EARTH'S NEW RULER WILL BRING ABOUT A GLOBAL PARADISE (5 min.)

Jesus inherited the entire earth (Ps 2:8-12)

His rulership extends over all peoples (Da 7:14)

He rules as Wonderful Counselor, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace (Isa 9:6, 7; *it-2* 69)

His princely rule brings peace, justice, righteousness

Through Jesus Christ, God will resurrect the dead (Joh 11:25)

Earth will be restored to a global paradise resembling the garden of Eden

Kingdom blessings will be abundant (Re 21:3, 4)

Jehovah's name will be sanctified, people will rejoice, all will be united under earth's new Ruler

OUR OBLIGATION TO CHRIST, EARTH'S NEW RULER (3 min.)

Line up with Jesus' standards and obey his commands (Joh 14:23)

Prove our discipleship by showing brotherly love (Joh 13:34, 35)

Help others to become subjects of Kingdom rule by witnessing about earth's new Ruler (Mt 28:19, 20; Ac 1:8)

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read or commented on)