

Christ the King November 24, 2013

Oh, the contrasts of these readings for Christ the King!

First Jeremiah speaks of the days to come , when a righteous branch will come to reign as king. Does this foretell the coming of Jesus?

Then Zechariah celebrates the birth of his son, John. While we value the individual , this father is more concerned with the role of his son within society. John will recognize the role of Jesus as a saviour to the world.

Now the contrasts explode on us. We go from blazing, blinding light, full of splendour, power and promise in Zachariah's world. In the Gospel we find a darkened sky, and the horror of Jesus hanging naked and writhing on the cross, utterly alone. Here is the core of my Christian faith. The Lord of all, has given His life for our salvation, for my salvation. And I, like the thief who hung near Jesus on the killing ground, plead 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.'