The Good News of Christmas #3 “The Christ” Mark 1:1

**Intro**: Pearl said, “Four more sleeps until I come to Mimi’s house; and Seven sleeps until Christmas!”

* One thing culture gets right: Anticipation (expect beforehand)

**t/s** – One word best captures that Anticipation --- **CHRIST**

**Mark 1:1** Read and Review

***The Beginning of the Gospel*** = Christmas Tells the Good News

 Rejoice in the Work God has done making all things new!

 (Repent = Turn from the status quo of your sinful lives)

***JESUS*** = The Lord Who Saves… We need a Savior (Light into Darkness)

 (Repent from our prideful self-reliance… Lord, Save Me!)

Today, ***Christ*** == Can’t spell Christmas without Christ!

***Tell the Story of David’s Anointing***

* 1,000 years before Jesus was born, Samuel came to Bethlehem carrying a horn filled with oil.
* *I have selected a king for Myself from the sons of Jesse, and you will anoint him*!
* Eliab (tall good-looking); Abinidab; Five others… No!
* Youngest, tending sheep… we will wait for him!
* When Samuel saw David, “*Arise, Anoint him, this is him*!”
* Oil from horn poured slowly upon David’s head….. dripping down across face,… edges of rob (Ps. 133)
* *From that day forward, the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David*, God’s Anointed King!

When Jesus was born, God’s People were longing for a King Like David. The prophets had promised a King like David --- better than David, a Son of David, who would lead them like a Shepherd, Faithful, Gentle, Righteous, Strong….***God’s Anointed One***.

**The Anointed One = Messiah** (Hebrew) **= Christ** (greek)

*Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus!*

**ILL** – Mark 8:29 – ***Thou art the Christ***

**Jesus Is the Promised King.**

**Exp** – More than anything else the title, “***Christ***” declares Him King.

 He is the Perfect King, the Forever King, the Promised Kept.

 Themes of Birth Accounts in Matthew and Luke:

 Matt. 1:1 – *Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of David.*

 Luke 1:32 – Read Gabriel’s word to Mary

 Luke 2:4 – *born in the City of David… House of David*

 Luke 2:11 – *Today in the city of David… Savior who is* ***Christ***

**ILL** - Matt 2:2 – ***Where is he who has been born King of Jews?***

 Matt 2:4 – Herod inquired ***where the Messiah*** would be born

 Bethlehem will produce a Ruler who will be pure,

 Strong, Shepherd King (Micah the Prophet)

**App** – Joy to the World… ***Let earth receive her King***!

 **t/s** - Herod reminds us that not everyone wants a new King.

**Opposition Is Expected.**

**Exp** – “**messiah**” is used three times in the OT: Daniel 9 (twice)

 Psalm 2 – Most referenced Psalm in the NT! (Who is Jesus)

 **Psalm 2: 1-3**

**ILL** – Simeon finally saw the LORD’s Christ… held in hands…

 This child is appointed for the fall and rise of many, and

 He will be opposed

**App** – Marvel not when the World hates you; It hated me also!

**Opposition to Jesus the Christ is Vain**. (pointless, empty)

**Exp** – Psalm 2:1 – calls opposition a ***vain*** thing!

 Christ = unassailable, undeniable RULE! (authority)

**ILL** – The First Christians understood this… confidence! Remember,

 Peter and John in the face of the Sanhedrin… Released…

 They began to realize their power, authority, Impact….

 **Acts 4: 23-28**

 (note: vs. 27 – Jesus whom You anointed)

Peter, John and the Church in Jerusalem formed His understanding of Jesus as Christ by studying Psalm 2

**Read Psalm 2: 1-12**

Jesus is the Anointed One; the Messiah; the Christ…the Promised King

Opposition to Him is Expected.

Opposition to Him is Vain.

**Derek Kidner**, OT scholar and vicar in church of England, Warden of Tyndale House publishers… OT commentaries. Lived until 2008 (95).

I quoted him Sunday evening, “*There is no refuge from Him: only refuge in Him.*”

Actually the last sentence in his commentary on Psalm 2:

***What fear and pride interpret as bondage is in fact security and bliss. There is no refuge from Him: only refuge in Him.***

**Concl/Inv**.: Is your fear and pride causing you to avoid/reject Jesus?

 He is your Rightful King. You were created to serve Him. Come now in Glad Submission ---

--- Repent and Believe in the Gospel.