

# Quotes from the Word: King of Kings

## THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Lord is King forever and ever (Psalm 10:16).

Your eyes will see the King in His beauty....  
For the Lord is our Judge, The Lord is our Lawgiver,  
The Lord is our King; He will save us.  
(Isaiah 33:17, 22)

The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness,  
The world and those who dwell therein....  
Lift up your heads, O you gates!  
And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!  
And the King of glory shall come in.  
Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord strong and mighty,  
The Lord mighty in battle....  
Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord of hosts,  
He is the King of glory.  
(Psalm 24:1, 7, 8, 10)

Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples!  
Shout to God with the voice of triumph!  
For the Lord Most High is awesome;  
He is a great King over all the earth....  
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
For God is the King of all the earth;  
Sing praises with understanding.  
(Psalm 47:1, 2, 6-7)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your King is coming to you;  
He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
(Zechariah 9:9)

I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my salvation.  
The stone which the builders rejected, has become the chief cornerstone....  
(Psalm 118:21, 22)

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Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their garments on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:1-11).

Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" (Luke 19:37-38).

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' The King of Israel!" Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him (John 12:12-16).

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True.... His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns.... And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Revelation 19: 11, 12, 16).

## THE HEAVENLY DOCTRINE

### The Lord's Mission

The Lord from eternity, who is Jehovah, came into the world to subdue the hells and to glorify His Human. Without this no mortal could have been saved, and those are saved who believe in Him (*True Christian Religion* 2).

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The Lord came into the world that He might save the human race, which otherwise would have perished. He saved them by subjugating the hells and at the same time by glorifying His Human (see *New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrine* 293).

## The Lord Our King

By “King” in the Word is meant the Lord in respect to Divine truth (*Apocalypse Explained* 31:3).

The reason why the Lord is called “King” and “the Anointed,” is that He was the Messiah, or Christ; and “Messiah” or “Christ” means the king and the anointed. This is why, in the Word, the Lord is meant by “king,” and also by “David,” who was king over Judah and Israel.... It is from the Lord’s being called a “king,” that heaven and the church are called His “kingdom” (*Doctrine of the Lord* 42).

“Anointed,” “Messiah,” and “Christ,” like “King,” mean the Lord as to Divine truth proceeding from His Divine good. For a king is called “anointed” and “anointed” in the Hebrew is Messiah, and in the Greek Christ. But that the Lord, as to the Divine Human, was alone “the Anointed of Jehovah,” since in Him alone was the Divine good of Divine Love from conception, for He was conceived of Jehovah (*Apocalypse Explained* 31:8).

“The disciples praised God, saying, Blessed is the King that cometh in the name of the Lord; peace in heaven and glory in the highest” (Luke 19:37-38). These things were said by the disciples when the Lord went to Jerusalem, that He might there, by the passion of the cross, which was His last temptation, wholly unite His Human to His Divine, and might also entirely subjugate the hells. As all Divine good and truth would then proceed from Him, they say, “Blessed is the King that cometh in the name of the Lord,” which meant acknowledgment, glorification, and thanksgiving that these things were from Him. “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest” means that the things meant by “peace” are from the union of the Divine Itself and the Divine Human, and that thence angels and people have them by conjunction with the Lord. For when the hells had been subjugated by the Lord, peace was established in heaven, and then those who were there had Divine truth from the Lord, which is “glory in the highest” (*Apocalypse Explained* 365:11).

“Just and true are Thy ways, O King of saints,” means that all things which proceed from Him are just and true, because He is the Divine good and the Divine truth itself in heaven and in the church. By “ways” are meant truths leading to good, and by “King,” when speaking of the Lord, is meant the Divine truth, and by “King of saints,” the Divine truth in heaven and in the church from Him. For by “saints” are meant they who are in Divine truths from the Lord.... The Lord is called “King” in His Divine Human, because this is the Messiah, the Anointed, the Christ, the Son of God (*Apocalypse Revealed* 664).

## Submission to Our King

The Lord desires any person's total submission so that He can make him blissful and happy. That is, He does not want him to be partly his own man and partly the Lord's, for then there are two masters whom a person cannot serve simultaneously (*Arcana Coelestia* 6138:2).

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The Lord does, it is true, demand humility, worship, thanksgiving, and much else from a person, which seem like repayment, so that His gifts do not seem to be free. But the Lord does not demand those things for His own sake, for the Divine derives no glory at all from a person's humility, worship, or thanksgiving. It is utterly inconceivable that any self-love should exist within the Divine, causing Him to require such actions for His own sake. Rather, they are required for a person's own sake, for if someone possesses humility he is able to accept good from the Lord, since in that case he has been parted from self-love and its evils which stand in the way of his accepting it. Therefore the Lord desires a state of humility in a person for that person's sake, because the Lord can flow in with heavenly good when that state exists in him (*Arcana Coelestia* 5957).

## Palm Sunday

One who does not know the meaning of "horse," "mule," and "the foal of an ass," in a symbolic sense, will suppose that the Lord's riding upon the foal of an ass was symbolic of misery and humiliation. But it meant royal magnificence. For this reason the people then proclaimed the Lord king, and strewed their garments upon the way. This was done when He went to Jerusalem, because by "Jerusalem" is symbolized the church and "garments" mean truths clothing and serving good (*Apocalypse Explained* 31:7).

"Riding upon an ass and upon a foal of an ass" was a sign of royalty, and therefore the Lord so rode when He entered Jerusalem, and He was therefore called King by the multitude crying aloud, and branches of palm trees and garments were strewn upon the way before Him. And as the Lord thus entered Jerusalem as a King it is evident that "Zion" means heaven and the church, in which the Lord reigns by means of His Divine truth. The kings of Judah and Israel meant the Lord as to the Divine truth, and consequently "kings" mean those who are in truths from good from the Lord (see *Apocalypse Explained* 850:4).

When the disciples laid their garments on the she-ass and her colt, it symbolized the recognition that truths in their entirety were the foundation on which the Lord as supreme Judge and King rested. For the disciples represented the Lord's Church in respect to its truths and goods, and their garments symbolized the truths themselves. The same was meant when the crowd spread their garments on the road, and also the branches of trees.... Those actions were also performed because it was customary for the leaders among the people to lay their garments on asses and mules when the highest judges and kings rode in solemn procession, and for the people themselves to spread their garments on the road, or the branches of trees instead. For in heaven judgeship consists in Divine Truth derived from Good, and kingship in Divine Truth (see *Arcana Coelestia* 9212:6).

Palms in their hands symbolizes being in the good of life according to truths. This is evident from the meaning of a "palm" as being spiritual good, and from the symbolism of "hands" as being power, and thus all ability in a person.... Because "palms" mean spiritual good, and from spiritual good is all joy of the heart...therefore by "palms in their hands" people testified their joy of heart, and also that they were acting from good. This is the meaning of the following from John 12: "Many who came to the feast when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm-trees, and went forth to meet Him, and cried out, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (see *Apocalypse Explained* 458: 1, 5).

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