Message Title: "Three Kings" – A Christians allegiance to the one true king, Jesus. Series: ACTS 180 – When the World Was Turned Upside Down! 180 Church | Acts 17:1-9 Pastor Harlyn | Sept 26, 2021

WHO IS YOUR \_\_\_\_?

Acts 17:1-9 "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews.<sup>2</sup> And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." <sup>4</sup> And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. <sup>5</sup> But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. <sup>6</sup> And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, <sup>7</sup> and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." <sup>8</sup> And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. <sup>9</sup> And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go."

## "They've turned the world upside down."

To be a \_\_\_\_\_, is to pledge your allegiance to Jesus as KING

WHO IS YOUR KING? JESUS? OUR \_\_\_\_\_? OUR \_\_\_\_?

"There's nothing that makes you more miserable (or less interesting) than self-absorption. How am I feeling, how am I doing, how are people treating me, am I proving myself, am I succeeding, am I failing, am I being treated justly? Self-absorption leaves us static: there's nothing more disintegrating. Why do we have wars? Class struggle? Family breakdown? Why are our relationships constantly exploding? It's the darkness of self-centeredness. When we decide to be our own center, our own king, everything falls apart: physically, socially, spiritually, and psychologically." Tim Keller

**Matthew 10:16-17** (Jesus) "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues,"

**2** Corinthians 10:4-5 "For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,"

Luke 20:25 "He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

## LOOK IN:

**1**. Have you ever presented the gospel to someone? How did it go? If not, what has kept you from doing so?

**2**. Have you ever been tempted to partner with someone or with a group whose goals/actions you didn't agree with, but could help you meet your own goals? What happened? How does this story encourage or challenge you?

**3**. Where are you tempted to make yourself the king of your life? How have you (or are you) tempted into self-absorption? How can or have you worked to prevent this?

**4**. Are you trusting (or have you trusted) in politics more than Jesus? Where are you tempted to do this? What can you do to align your heart to the gospel rather than political platforms, parties, or politicians?

**5**. In what areas of your life have you made great strides in making Jesus king? Where do you struggle to do this most right now?