

## Solemnity of Christ the King 2018

My beloved brothers and sisters, today we are celebrating the Divine Kingship of Jesus Christ. In the ancient world, and even within the last 500 years, a king had the absolute power of life and death over any of his subjects and their properties as well. Pilate thinks that he exercises absolute power. But his power is exercised in name of Caesar, and it was limited only to the province of Judea. When Jesus stands before him, He asks Jesus: "Are you the King of the Jews?" Pilate is afraid that Jesus is the leader of an insurrection against Rome. Little does he realize that before him stands the Absolute Power of the entire universe, the King of Heaven and Earth. Jesus tells him: "My kingdom is not of this world." He also tells Pilate: "I came to testify to the Truth." It is quite clear that Pilate is disturbed by Jesus; this could have been a moment of profound conversion for this Roman pagan, instead, it is not Pilate who judges Jesus, but The Truth of Jesus, The Eternal King, who judges Pilate by Pilate's failure to respond to the Truth and accept the Truth. The Truth was here to save him, and he refused it!

Jesus tells us that His Kingdom is not of this world. If this is indeed the Truth, which we believe it is, then our surrender to His Divine Truth means that we cannot belong to this world and belong to the Kingdom of Jesus. We will be judged by the acceptance of this fundamental truth. Accepting the Truth which Pilate refused to do, involves our free and willful surrender to that Truth. It means the free and willful surrender of my life to the Divine King. Pilate was unwilling to do this, and he surrendered to Moral Relativism, the poison that now infects the whole of society and much of the Church! Moral Relativism is the refusal to acknowledge that there is an innate and fundamental Truth that is the foundation of everything that exists in the world; and, I am not the center of Truth- God is.

This fundamentally means that I must submit myself to this Objective and Revealed Truth if I am going to be saved; because I am incapable of saving myself. It means surrendering myself to the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, the Universal King, who is the source of life itself, if I am going to have life. It means submitting myself to His Infinite Divine and Saving Mercy, for I have no other hope in this

world or in the next, accept for His mercy. It means that I surrender and bow my head and acknowledge the Law of His Divine Kingdom over the whole of my life, which is His mercy that sets me free to be the Holy and Beloved son or daughter of the King!

It is not being the Lord of my life that makes me free, but rather, my radical submission to the King of Life, that makes me free! St. John Paul the Great said it rightly: "The more I am God's slave, the more free I become!"; because, the more He reigns in me, the more transformed in Love I become! Viva, Cristo Rey!