

- Today, we no longer cry out as slaves in bondage, but in thanksgiving that He has fully delivered us from the slavery of sin and death.
- Jesus is "the stone which the builders rejected" who has become the "chief cornerstone" (vv 22-23).
 - He claimed this title to demonstrate that He is our solid rock of safety.
- They sang, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" (v 26).
 - Though Jesus wept over the city because they did not recognize the path to true peace, He promised He would return when Israel welcomes Him again with these words.
- Psalm 118:27 declares, "The Lord is God, and He has given us light".
 - Jesus fulfilled this when He stood in the temple courts and declared, "I am the Light of the world".
- Today, we celebrate by walking in His light, knowing His presence dispels the spiritual darkness around us.

Trusting the Sovereign Lord of Creation (Matthew 8:24–26)

- In Matthew 8:23–27, the disciples faced a violent storm on the Sea of Galilee and cried out in terror, "Lord, save us, we are going to drown!".
- When Jesus, the humble King, rebukes the wind and the sea, He demonstrates His absolute authority over the physical and spiritual world, performing deeds only God can do.
 - In Hebrew tradition, God's power to subdue the chaotic, raging waters is the ultimate signature of His sovereign kingship.
- Today, we celebrate by recognizing our King is not just a historical figure or human teacher, but the Almighty God in the flesh of a man.
 - Jesus is the trustworthy divine warrior who calms the chaos in our lives and restores perfect order so that we can find our security in Him, our rock of safety and our secure foundation.

Resting in Salvation by Grace (Titus 3:4–7)

- Titus 3:4–7 reminds us when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us — not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of His mercy.
- Through the Holy Spirit, He justified us by His grace so that we might become heirs with the promise of eternal life.
- Today, true celebration must be built upon the foundation of redemption.
 - We do not celebrate like the world, which demands performance and productivity to earn favor.
 - Instead, we celebrate with a "pure heart" as we rest in His finished work on the cross, paying the penalty for our sins once and for all.

Sharing the Hope of the Feast of Victory (Isaiah 25:1–10 & 1 Chronicles 16:30–36)

- When King David brought the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem, it was met with shouting, sacrifices, and intensive worship because the Ark represented the presence of God.
- Because Jesus the King reigns over all Creation (the roaring sea, the joyous fields, and the singing trees), everything and everyone is to shout praises of joy before the Lord.
 - We thank the Lord because "He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever".
- Isaiah prophesied a coming kingdom at the end of time, where God would wipe away all tears, swallow up death forever, and provide a lavish feast of rich foods and refined wine (the biblical symbol of gladness and blessing).
- We celebrate today by living in the "already but not yet" tension of God's Kingdom.
 - Our celebration today is a joyful rehearsal for a grander, future reality.
 - We enjoy the foretaste of His peace and community now, while eagerly awaiting the Second Coming of our King when He will fully restore all of creation.
 - When we celebrate the King today, we do so with a "new song" of salvation in our mouths, resting upon His finished work on the cross while confidently waiting for His glorious return.
 - We do not worship in a physical temple made of stone; instead, the Holy Spirit dwells in each believer and, collectively as the Body of Christ, as the living temple of God.
 - We celebrate by offering "sacrifices of praise" and living lives dedicated for His use only.