

Allegiance Message 3

Title: *Not Just Belief—Loyalty*

Texts: Romans 10:9; James 2:14–26; Matthew 7:21–27

Big Idea: Faith in Jesus isn't just believing the right facts—it's active allegiance expressed through loyalty, obedience, and practical commitment.

Introduction

- Examples of questionable loyalty: sports fans, phone brands
- Our faith can sometimes look like that—more talk than action
- Question: *What kind of faith does Jesus actually call us to?*
- **Main idea:** Jesus calls us to allegiance, not just belief

Point 1: Faith Means Allegiance

Key Text: *Romans 10:9*

“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

- “Jesus is Lord” is not just spiritual—it's political and royal
- In Paul's day, to say “Jesus is Lord” meant Caesar was not
- Faith is more than believing facts—it's pledging allegiance to a King
- **Quote:** Matthew Bates – “True faith is active loyalty to Jesus”
- To believe Jesus is Lord is to transfer your loyalty

Point 2: Allegiance Is Expressed Through Action

Key Text: *James 2:14–26*

- James challenges us: if faith has no deeds, it's dead
- True allegiance to King Jesus must shape real life
- Includes speech, relationships, money, sexuality, time, etc.
- **Quote:** N.T. Wright – “Faith always involves active, lived obedience.”
- Even demons *believe*—but they don't *obey*
- Abraham and Rahab: real faith leads to real steps of obedience
- Faith without action is like claiming allegiance to a king but refusing to follow orders

Point 3: True Allegiance Is Costly

Key Text: *Matthew 7:21–27*

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“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven...”

- Surface-level faith isn't enough—Jesus wants obedience
- Two builders: both hear Jesus' words, but only one obeys
- Storms come to both lives—only obedience provides foundation
- Obedience proves relationship: “I never knew you” = no covenantal loyalty
- Jesus isn't looking for fans—He's looking for followers

Application

- Allegiance is tested by weekday decisions, not Sunday songs
- Call to reflect:
 - Where is your allegiance most tested?
 - What area of life needs renewed submission to King Jesus?

Examples of practical steps:

- Forgiving someone
- Ending an unhealthy relationship
- Starting a discipline of prayer or Scripture
- Speaking up about your faith
- Walking away from temptation

Conclusion & Call to Action

- The gospel calls for transformation, not just transaction
- Faith = loyalty, not just belief
- Live out your confession with allegiance to Jesus the King

“Because Jesus is not just your Savior. He's your King. Let's live like it.”