*27Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. 28They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. 30They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. 31After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.*

*32As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. 33They came to a place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). 34There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. 35When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 36And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. 37Above his head they placed the written charge against him: this is jesus, the king of the jews.*

Outline

1. Context: The clash between two kings and two kingdoms
2. For Romans, Jesus’ crucifixion proved that he wasn’t a king. For Jesus’ disciples it worked the opposite way—his suffering validated his kingship.  
   1. Psalm 22: *I am scorned by everyone, despised by all people, All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads…All my bones are on display. People stare and gloat over me. They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.*
   2. Isaiah 53: *Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering…He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities. The punishment that brought us peace was on him and by his wounds we are healed. We all like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*
3. Jesus is a different kind of King  
   1. Luke 23:34: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing*
   2. Napoleon Boneparte: *Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires; but what foundation did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force.* *Jesus Christ founded an empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men and women would die for him.”*
4. We live in a different kind of kingdom  
   1. A community of generosity in a world of consumption.
   2. A community of thankfulness in a world of entitlement.
   3. A community of selfless care in a world of narcissism.
   4. A community of justice in a world of injustice.
   5. A community of reconciliation in a world of grudges and retaliation
   6. A community of joy in a world dominated by a frantic pursuit of pleasure.
   7. A community of cheerful seriousness in a culture of triviality.