



Sermon Title:

Shepherd King

Date: December 31, 2023

Key Scripture:

- Matthew 2:1-12

How to live like a king:

1) Be **confident** and **content** with who we are before God.

John 1:12 ... *"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,"*

2) Be **caring**.

Matthew 7:12 ... *"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."*

3) Be **eager** to **serve**.

Matthew 20:25–28 ... *"But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

From the Resources

I asked Bedouin about losing sheep and hardly ever missed hearing a touching story that carried some remarkable sentiment. From the mountains surrounding ancient Petra, Ahmed responded with characteristic confidence: “Since 1984 I have never lost a sheep or goat that I didn’t find again—dead or alive.” But then, with hesitation and obvious feeling, he continued, “Except one. And that one I can never forget. She is on my mind every night before I sleep.” Although he had thousands of animals, he felt shamed as a shepherd that he could not account for one that was lost. ...

Jesus was intent on reconnecting those who had become isolated, searching with resolve for each one “until he finds it.” His focused mission was “to seek and to save the lost.” He called disciples to continue that mission, sending them out to retrieve the “lost sheep of Israel.” He also informed them of the broader scope of his mission: “I have other sheep...I must bring them also.”

Laniak, Timothy. *While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks: Forty Daily Reflections on Biblical Leadership* (p. 80). ShepherdLeader Publications. Kindle Edition.

