

November 7, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



“But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.” (Psalm 81:11, ESV)

If I were a King!
Oh, the good, I would do!

But if the history of the world teaches us anything, we would learn that all too many monarchs fall into self-indulgence, rather than genuinely caring for the people they are to govern. They often develop an attitude of “I deserve this” and it gets the best of them. There were good kings, but we tend to remember the bad ones. A King by nature, has absolute authority, which means no one can tell them “No” and if someone would dare to tell the king “No” they would be subject to his wrath.

Why would we not want to live in a society with a king? TRUST! We don't trust anyone to make decisions for us. Putting all that aside, let's think for a few moments about what we would want in a king. We would want a King that would care less about himself and more about the welfare of his subjects. We would want a King who would be fair across the board, one who would apply his rules to us in the same way he would to his wealthiest subjects.

Our country has chosen to have a representative government. We vote for and elect the President. It has a lot to do with trust and the fact that we are always looking for something better. Every four years we get the opportunity to change who is doing that governing. We say we trust the President when

we vote in elections, then we spend the next few years being critical of every collective decision that he makes.

We think we know better for ourselves what we need for our lives, however, the elected officials are often the ones who decide our wants and our needs. Elected officials, as well as Kings, must work within a budget. The budget requires them to prioritize the needs when they decide what will be best for the greatest number of people. The big hole in my street is a great priority to me but, I may live at the end of a dead-end street. Even though repairing the hole is a great need, it's not as much a priority as a broken water main that affects a third of the town.

About three thousand five hundred years ago, God gave the Israelite people a law that included Himself, a benevolent God who would be sovereign over them. He led, guided, protected, provided, and loved them yet, they were never able to fully trust in him. They thought they knew a better way.

Times have not changed. Today that same benevolent God wants us to fully trust Him to lead, guide, protect, and love us unconditionally. Do we trust Him and follow His word, or are we like the Israelites and think we have a better way?

“For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.” (Romans 10:3, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott