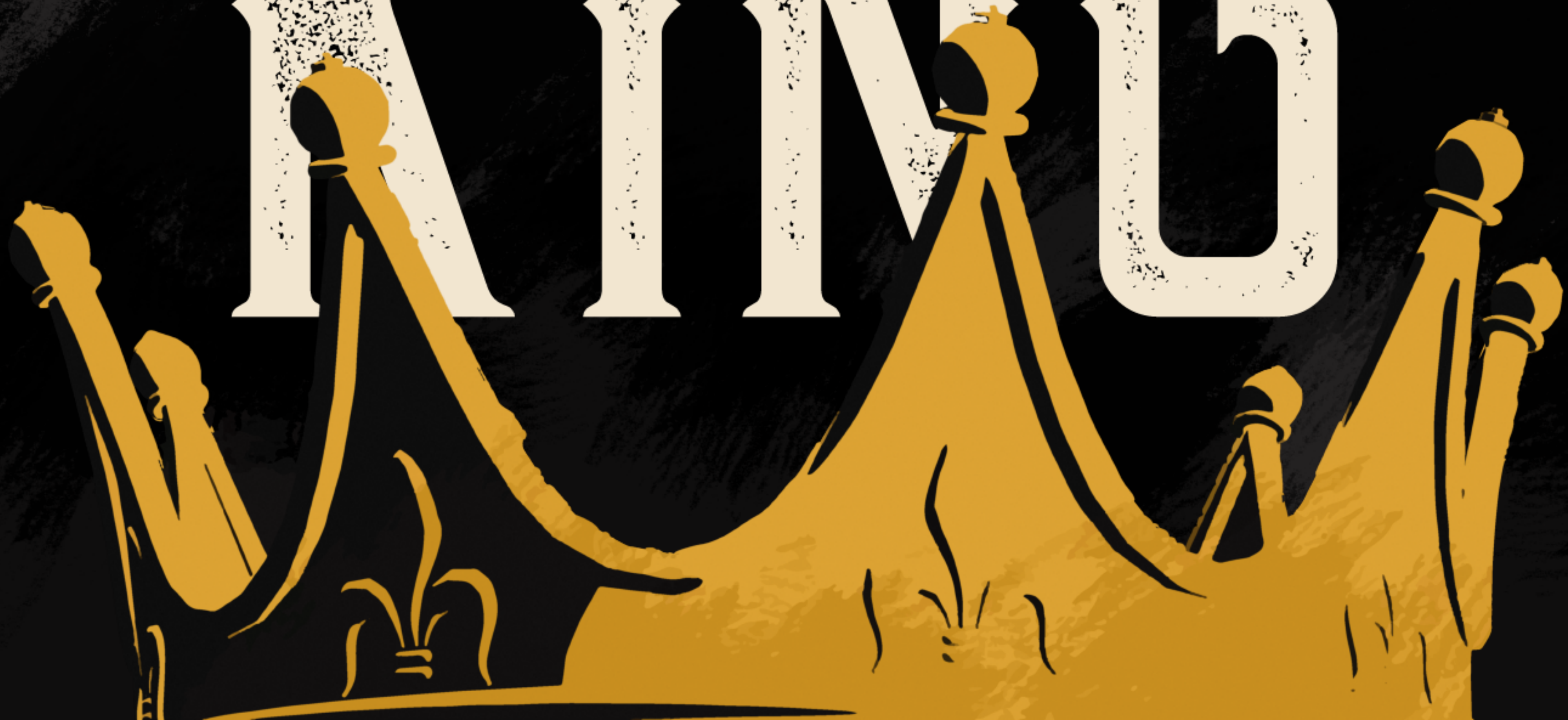


A SERIES ON 1 SAMUEL

THE RISE OF A KING





THE KINGDOM WITHOUT A KING

1 SAMUEL 10:17-27




**WE LIKE THE PEOPLE OF
ISRAEL WANT THE FRUIT OF
CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT THE
CONSTRAINTS OF THE LAW OF
GOD. WE WANT THE KINGDOM
WITHOUT THE KING.**

1 SAMUEL 10:17-27 (ESV) SAUL PROCLAIMED KING
17 NOW SAMUEL CALLED THE PEOPLE TOGETHER TO THE
LORD AT MIZPAH. ¹⁸ AND HE SAID TO THE PEOPLE OF
ISRAEL, "THUS SAYS THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL,
'I BROUGHT UP ISRAEL OUT OF EGYPT, AND I DELIVERED
YOU FROM THE HAND OF THE EGYPTIANS AND FROM THE
HAND OF ALL THE KINGDOMS THAT WERE OPPRESSING
YOU.' ¹⁹ BUT TODAY YOU HAVE REJECTED YOUR GOD, WHO
SAVES YOU FROM ALL YOUR CALAMITIES AND YOUR
DISTRESSES, AND YOU HAVE SAID TO HIM, 'SET A KING
OVER US.' NOW THEREFORE PRESENT YOURSELVES
BEFORE THE LORD BY YOUR TRIBES AND BY YOUR
THOUSANDS..."

20 THEN SAMUEL BROUGHT ALL THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL NEAR, AND THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN WAS TAKEN BY LOT.

21 HE BROUGHT THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN NEAR BY ITS CLANS, AND THE CLAN OF THE MATRITES WAS TAKEN BY LOT; AND SAUL THE SON OF KISH WAS TAKEN BY LOT. BUT WHEN THEY SOUGHT HIM, HE COULD NOT BE FOUND.


22 SO THEY INQUIRED AGAIN OF THE LORD, "IS THERE A MAN STILL TO COME?" AND THE LORD SAID, "BEHOLD, HE HAS HIDDEN HIMSELF AMONG THE BAGGAGE." 23 THEN THEY RAN AND TOOK HIM FROM THERE. AND WHEN HE STOOD AMONG THE PEOPLE, HE WAS TALLER THAN ANY OF THE PEOPLE FROM HIS SHOULDERS UPWARD.



24 AND SAMUEL SAID TO ALL THE PEOPLE, "DO YOU SEE HIM WHOM THE LORD HAS CHOSEN? THERE IS NONE LIKE HIM AMONG ALL THE PEOPLE." AND ALL THE PEOPLE SHOUTED, "LONG LIVE THE KING!" ²⁵ **THEN SAMUEL TOLD THE PEOPLE THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE KINGSHIP, AND HE WROTE THEM IN A BOOK AND LAID IT UP BEFORE THE LORD. THEN SAMUEL SENT ALL THE PEOPLE AWAY, EACH ONE TO HIS HOME.** ²⁶ **SAUL ALSO WENT TO HIS HOME AT GIBEAH, AND WITH HIM WENT MEN OF VALOR WHOSE HEARTS GOD HAD TOUCHED.** ²⁷ **BUT SOME WORTHLESS FELLOWS SAID, "HOW CAN THIS MAN SAVE US?" AND THEY DESPISED HIM AND BROUGHT HIM NO PRESENT. BUT HE HELD HIS PEACE.**




1. REBELLION AGAINST GOD



"WHEN WE DEMAND A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOD, THE LORD WILL ALLOW US TO EXPERIENCE WORLDLY AND UNBELIEVING RULE, WITH ALL ITS HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES. THIS IS NOT BECAUSE GOD WAS THWARTED BY THE ELDERS' OBSTINACY OR THAT GOD FOUND HIMSELF AT HIS WITS' END. RATHER, GOD INTENDED A HUMBLING LESSON THAT MIGHT RESULT IN FUTURE REPENTANCE AND RESTORATION.

-RICHARD PHILLIPS



"THIS REMINDS US THAT WE SHOULD NOT ALWAYS BE ENCOURAGED WHEN GOD SEEMS TO ANSWER OUR PRAYERS. HERE, GOD'S RELENTING WAS A SIGN NOT OF HIS BLESSING BUT OF HIS CHASTISEMENT. THE MORE WE REALIZE HOW SINFUL OUR HEARTS ARE AND HOW FREQUENTLY OUR THOUGHTS AND DESIRES RUN ASTRAY, THE MORE WE WILL HUMBLY DESIRE GOD TO OVERRULE IN OUR PRAYERS SO THAT HIS WISDOM WILL OVERCOME OUR FOLLY, AND HIS HOLINESS WILL CORRECT OUR SIN."

“BEING GOD’S PEOPLE DEMANDED FIDELITY TO HIM AND HOLINESS BEFORE THE WORLD, AND THUS ISRAEL’S REQUEST FOR A WORLDLY KING WAS EFFECTIVELY “A DESIRE TO NO LONGER BE THE LORD’S PEOPLE.” JESUS TOLD HIS FOLLOWERS, “IN THE WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TRIBULATION. BUT TAKE HEART; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD” (JOHN 16:33). FOR CHRISTIANS TO TURN ASIDE FROM THE TRIBULATIONS THAT ACCOMPANY GODLINESS IS TO RENOUNCE CHRIST’S POWER TO OVERCOME ON OUR BEHALF.

-JOHN WOODHOUSE



2. SUBMISSION TO GOD'S CHOICE




**“THE LOT IS CAST INTO THE LAP,
BUT ITS EVERY DECISION IS FROM
THE LORD.”**

PROVERBS 16:33 (ESV)



**“THE SCEPTER SHALL NOT DEPART
FROM JUDAH,
NOR THE RULER’S STAFF FROM
BETWEEN HIS FEET,**

GENESIS 49:10 (ESV)



***THE PURPOSE OF GOD GIVING
HIS PEOPLE WHAT THEY ASKED
FOR IN SAUL WAS TO BRING THEM
TO A PLACE OF REPENTANCE AND
RESTORATION.***



**THEY SAW GOD AS
USEFUL BUT NOT
BEAUTIFUL.**



3. THE SUPREMACY OF GOD'S WORD ABOVE ALL ELSE.

DEUTERONOMY 17:18–20 (ESV)

18 “AND WHEN HE (THE KING) SITS ON THE THRONE OF HIS KINGDOM, HE SHALL WRITE FOR HIMSELF IN A BOOK A COPY OF THIS LAW, APPROVED BY THE LEVITICAL PRIESTS.

19 AND IT SHALL BE WITH HIM, AND HE SHALL READ IN IT ALL THE DAYS OF HIS LIFE, THAT HE MAY LEARN TO FEAR THE LORD HIS GOD BY KEEPING ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LAW AND THESE STATUTES, AND DOING THEM, ²⁰ **THAT HIS HEART MAY NOT BE LIFTED UP ABOVE HIS BROTHERS, AND THAT HE MAY NOT TURN ASIDE FROM THE COMMANDMENT, EITHER TO THE RIGHT HAND OR TO THE LEFT, SO THAT HE MAY CONTINUE LONG IN HIS KINGDOM, HE AND HIS CHILDREN, IN ISRAEL.**



1 SAMUEL 10:25 (ESV)

25 THEN SAMUEL TOLD THE PEOPLE THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE KINGSHIP, AND HE WROTE THEM IN A BOOK AND LAID IT UP BEFORE THE LORD. THEN SAMUEL SENT ALL THE PEOPLE AWAY, EACH ONE TO HIS HOME.



PROVERBS 21:1 (ESV)

**“AND THE KING’S HEART IS A
STREAM OF WATER IN THE HAND OF
THE LORD; HE TURNS IT WHEREVER
HE WILL.**




**Q15: SINCE NO ONE CAN KEEP THE LAW,
WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?**

**A: THAT WE MAY KNOW THE HOLY NATURE
AND WILL OF GOD, AND THE SINFUL
NATURE AND DISOBEDIENCE OF OUR
HEARTS; AND THUS OUR NEED OF A SAVIOR.
THE LAW ALSO TEACHES AND EXHORTS US
TO LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF OUR SAVIOR.**




4. REBELLION AGAINST GOD'S SERVANT




“POST-CHRISTIANITY IS ULTIMATELY THE PROJECT OF THE WEST TO MOVE BEYOND CHRISTIANITY, WHILST *FEASTING UPON ITS FRUIT*. THUS IT CONSTANTLY OFFERS US OPTIONS AND OFF RAMPS, *IN WHICH WE SEEMINGLY HAVE WHAT WE ENJOY ABOUT FAITH, BUT WITHOUT THE SACRIFICES AND COMMITMENTS*. IT DOES NOT DEMAND THAT WE BECOME APOSTATES RATHER THAT WE RESHAPE OUR FAITH TO SUIT THE CONTOURS OF THE DAY, AND IN THE PROCESS OFFERS US THE PROMISE OF TANGIBLE FREEDOMS AND PLEASURES FOR DOING SO....

-MARK SAYERS




"...IT DOES NOT CHALLENGE OUR FAITH HEAD ON IN A KIND OF APOLOGETICS DEBATE; RATHER IT USES SOFT POWER, OFFERING A CONTINUAL BACKGROUND HUM OF OPTIONS AND INCENTIVES WHICH EAT AWAY AT OUR COMMITMENTS. WE ARE OFFERED THE MIRAGE THAT WE CAN HAVE COMMUNITY WITHOUT COMMITMENT, FAITH WITHOUT DISCIPLINE, THE KINGDOM WITHOUT THE KING. TO STEAL AND MISQUOTE ELIOT'S LINE, OUR FAITH DOESN'T DISAPPEAR WITH A BANG BUT WITH A WHIMPER.

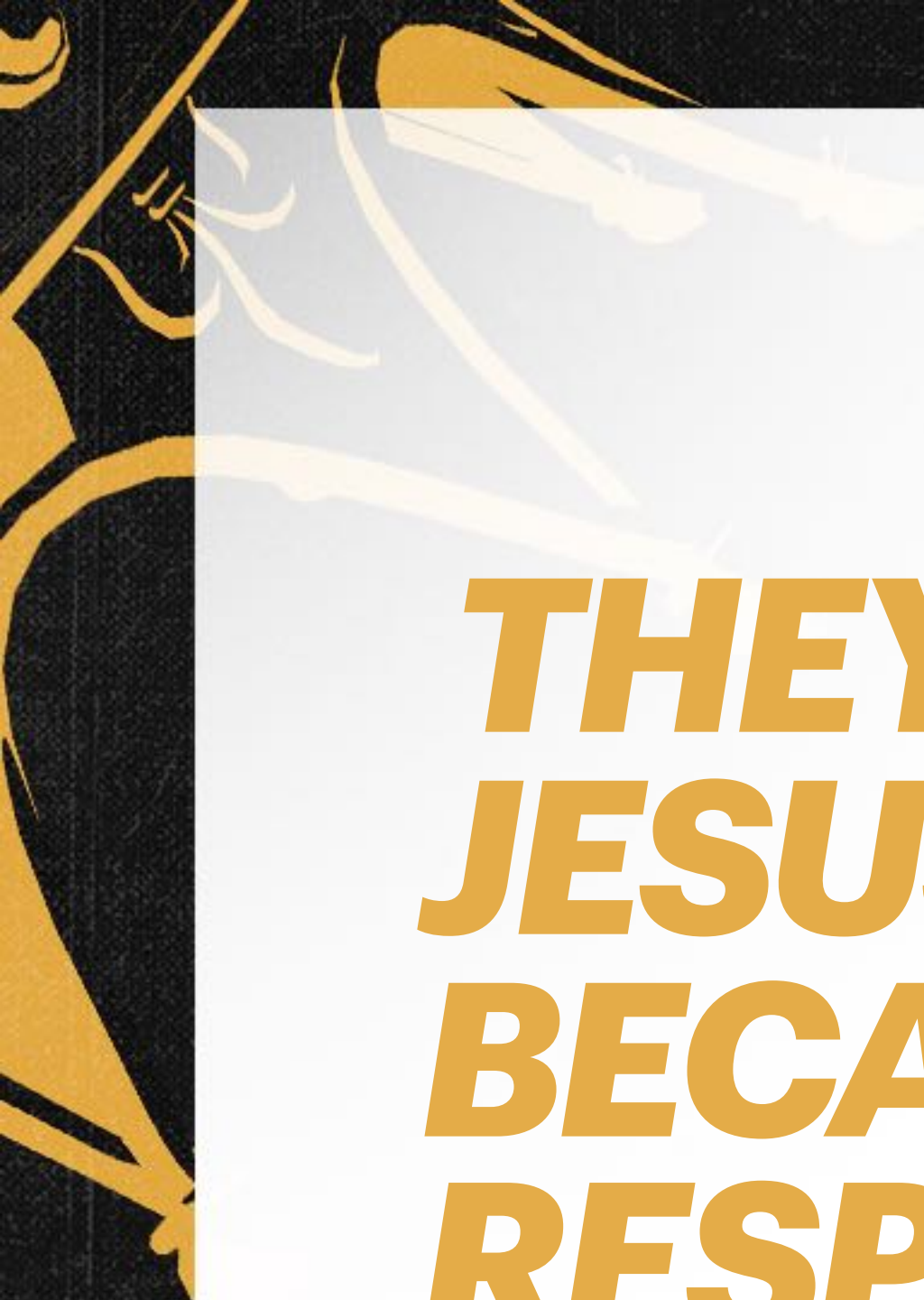


“THERE IS A MOVEMENT IN CULTURE, IN ACADEMIA, IN CHURCHES TODAY. TO STRIP AWAY ALL OF THE TRANSCENDENT DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS (LIKE KING AND LORD) TO PRESENT HIM AS A TEACHER, HEALER, RABBI, SAGE, SPIRITUAL LEADER AND MORAL EXEMPLAR.”

-FLEMING RUTLEDGE



**ISRAEL'S KINGS WERE NOT THE
PEOPLE'S IDEA. THEY WERE
GODS' - THEY WERE MEANT TO
BE CHOSEN BY GOD AND POINT
TO THE ULTIMATE KING,
THE PERFECT KING. A KING THAT
GIVES AND DOES NOT TAKE.**



***THEY SAY THIS BECAUSE THEY SEE
JESUS AS USEFUL. THEY SAY THIS
BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE
RESPECTABLE WE WANT TO BE LIKE
EVERYONE ELSE. THEY DON'T WANT
TO BE DIFFERENT.***

***THEY WANT THE KINGDOM WITHOUT
THE KING.***

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