Daily Devotion #99

Decisions, Decisions

John 18:36 -*“Jesus answered, ’My kingdom[*[*k*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26822k)*]is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.’”*

Life is full of decisions. We can’t do anything in a day without tens of hundreds of decisions. From little, seemingly-insignificant decisions, to large, potentially life-changing decisions. And some people are very good at making decisions. Some make very calculated decisions based on fact and lots of information. Others make decisions on a whim with little-to- no information backing them. Decisions are a part of life and are made every day.

Too often the larger decisions are made with great hesitation due to concerns of the outcome. Fear is a huge motivator when it comes to making decisions that have potentially catastrophic or at least devastating consequences if the decision made is not correct. So, many times people just sit on something and hope it will go away or maybe someone else will make the decision for them, or they don’t make a decision about it at all and throw up their hands and let chance take care of it.

But there is one decision in life that cannot be handled this way, and that decision is whether or not you are a full member of God’s family - whether or not you are part of His Kingdom.

When Jesus was before Pilate, He was given a question that stands out as the question of the ages. The question was, “Are You the King of the Jews?” (John 18:33) Jesus’s answer was revealing. He responded with the verse for today. And His purpose was twofold. First, He wanted Pilate to know that He was God. Not only was He King of another realm, He was not a human king, but supernatural one. And not only supernatural, but The King! Among whom there is no greater. (Revelation 19:16) Second, His answer was for His people to decide. Not only the Jews but also for all who profess Him as their Lord. The question is, “Who are you following in this life?”  Or better, “Who is your King?”.

In our culture we know very little about living under a monarch. For centuries many people in other lands have lived under a monarch or monarchist government. But for us, freedom has been our monarch. I understand that we have been under a government of the people and for the people, but, in reality, freedom has been the focus, not the individuals who lead us. That’s why we have a great society but also a turbulent one when freedoms are challenged.

In God’s Kingdom, He is the supreme Ruler. There is none other. There is not a congress or a constitution whereby people are given the power to make decisions for Him. He rules with absolute, sovereign authority. And for every follower of His, His sovereign rule extends into His subjects’ hearts, not just in their lands.  He demands that His followers serve and honor Him first, above all worldly or governmental leaders or establishments.

 As a part of His church beloved, we are called to follow our Lord and His Word, in all situations, in all circumstances. At no time is His Word to be trumped by any worldly leaders or human governments. His church marches to the beat of His sovereign, holy drum, if you will.

 So, the decision that cannot be treated like any other decision in life is, will you follow Him, even when the world screams against Him? Do you believe that He is your King? Your eternal, everlasting King? If He is your true King, then to whom do you owe your greater allegiance, Him or the world? Decisions, decisions.