

New World Leaders “In Waiting”

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Mankind has been experimenting with various forms of government for thousands of years, but none have proven to serve citizens fairly and effectively over an extended period of time. Even democratic systems of government have evolved over time and no longer resemble their original tenets. This is confirmed by examining how government worked in ancient Greece, which was the birthplace of democracy.

The Boule was a group of 500 men, 50 from each of the ten Athenian tribes, **who served on the Council for one year**. They met every day and did most of the hands-on work of governance. Its supervised government workers and was in charge of things like navy ships (triremes) and army horses. It dealt with ambassadors and representatives from other city-states. Its main function was to decide what matters would come before the ekklesia (40,000 citizens who could vote on issues 40 times per year). In this way, the 500 members of the Boule dictated how the democracy would work. **Positions on the Boule were chosen by lot and not by election. This was because a random lottery could not be influenced by things like money or popularity. The lottery system also prevented the establishment of a permanent class of civil servants who might be tempted to use government to advance or enrich themselves**

(<http://www.history.com/topics/ancientgreece/ancient-greece-democracy>).

Sadly, over time this lottery was corrupted because wealthy and influential people, and

their relatives, began to serve on the Council more frequently than would be likely in a truly random lottery. This change was the primary reason that democracy failed in Greece.

Around 460 B.C., under the rule of the general Pericles (generals were among the only public officials who were elected, not appointed) **Athenian democracy began to evolve into something we would call an aristocracy: the rule of what Herodotus called “the one man, the best.”**

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Moving forward in time, governments today focus more on serving and preserving themselves, than having genuine concern for the well-being of their citizens. This state of affairs is intrinsically linked to a preoccupation with party sectarianism/tribalism, greed for money, an insatiable appetite for power, and a deep-seated vanity that not only wants to be applauded, but even worshiped. Terms such as “princes”, “shepherds”, “judges”, “elders”, and “kings” are used in the Bible to describe those who are in “self-serving” political and religious positions of power.

Your princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves; everyone loves bribes, and follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, nor does the cause of the widow come before them (Isa. 1:23; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

The Lord will enter into judgment with the elders of His people and His princes: For you have eaten up the vineyard and the plunder of the poor is in your houses. ¹⁵What do you mean by crushing My people and grinding the faces of the poor? (Isa. 3:14-15a).

*"As I live," says the Lord God, "surely because My flock became a prey, and My flock became food for every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did My shepherds search for My flock, but **the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock.**"* (Eze. 34:8; emphasis added).

For I (Paul) know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking misleading things, to draw away disciples after themselves (Ac. 20:29-30; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Because religious leaders are also associated with abusive behavior, it is important that each person build a strong relationship with the only delegated leader of God's true church, Jesus Christ (Col. 1:18),



FOR ALL YOUR COMMANDMENTS ARE RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Psalms 119:172b; cf, Deuteronomy 6:24-25; emphasis added

The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat.

³Therefore whatever they tell you (from scripture), that observe and do, but do not do according to their works (personal bad examples); for they say, and do not do. ⁴For they bind heavy burdens (through their traditions), hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. ⁵But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. ⁶They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.' ⁸But you (God's true disciples), do not be called 'Rabbi'; for one is your Teacher (Christ), and you are all brethren. ⁹Do not call anyone on earth your

father (in a religious sense; per the Roman Catholic Church); for One is your Father, He who is in heaven (Mt. 23:2-9; Ed. notes in parentheses).

As Almighty God foreknew that mankind would reject His law and commandments and choose a leadership that would cater to carnal human nature (Isa. 30:9-11; Rom. 8:7), *He preordained that certain individuals would be "called" out of this present evil system* (Gal. 1:4) *and "tested" over a period of time to develop them into faithful future leaders. One of these individuals was Noah who warned those around him to repent of their lawless deeds over a period of one hundred years* (Gen. 5:32 cf. 7:6).

*God did not spare the ancient world, but saved **Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness...*** (2Pet. 2:5a; Heb. 11:7; emphasis added).

Noah taught the difference between good and evil behavior, which is defined by God's law and commandments.

For all Your commandments are righteousness (Ps. 119:172b; cf, Dt. 6:24-25; emphasis added).

Because Noah did not quit doing God's work, no matter how hard it was or how long it took, he proved that he could be trusted to rule under Jesus Christ at a future resurrection of the dead. This is why Noah is mentioned among other trustworthy servants of God.

"Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it (land of Israel), they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord God (Eze. 14:14; cf. 14:20; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Daniel trusted God, even to the point of death, when he was thrown into a lions' den (Dan. 6:16-27), while Job suffered the loss of his property, children, and health (Job 1:13-22; 2:7-10). Therefore Noah, Daniel, and Job all proved their trust in God, even though they suffered through horrific trials.

One of the greatest trials for any parent to endure is the loss of their child, especially if it's at the hands of the parent. Abraham was someone who went through this gut-wrenching experience, while trusting and obeying God's command (Gen. 22:1-12). For this reason, God describes everyone who follows Abraham's example as one of his children.

*Therefore know that only **those who are of faith** (trust God and obey His word) **are sons of Abraham** (Gal. 3:7; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

When the Bible mentions that someone has faith, it means they trust God's word and will obey it no matter how hard that may be, especially in difficult situations. In fact, it is through difficult tests and trials that people are able to have their faith/trust in God confirmed. In the case of Abraham, he began obeying God's command the moment he was told to leave the country that was near and dear to him.

***By faith Abraham obeyed** when he was called to go to the place which he would afterward receive as an inheritance. And **he went out, not knowing where he was going** (Heb. 11:8; emphasis added).*

Even though God's servants die, He does not consider them dead because they will be resurrected to everlasting life upon the return of Jesus Christ.

*But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the burning bush passage, how God spoke to him, saying, "I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?"²⁷(Therefore) **He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living...** (Mk. 12:26-27; Ed. Note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Not only will Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob be ruling under Jesus Christ in the future, scripture confirms that Moses and Elijah will be with them as well. Some of Christ's disciples were given a short glimpse of this future event in a vision (Mt. 17:9).

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, brought them up on a high mountain by themselves,² and was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as a light.³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, (while) talking with him (Mt. 17:1-3; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Another Biblical leader will be resurrected and responsible for all twelve families of Jacob, or Israel. Again, this ruler will be under the authority of Jesus Christ. The time frame follows a period of great turmoil as described in the following section of scripture,

Now these are the words that the Lord spoke concerning Israel and Judah.⁵ For thus says the Lord: "We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.⁶ Ask now, and see, whether a male can give birth? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale?⁷ Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he (as a collective nation) shall be saved out of it.⁸ For it shall come to pass in that day, that I will break his yoke (Satan's deceptions) from your neck,

*and will burst your bonds; foreigners shall no more enslave them (Eph. 6:12). ⁹But **they shall serve the Lord their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up (from the dead) for them.***" (Jer. 30:4-9; Ed. notes in parentheses)

Christ's twelve apostles will serve under David's authority after the return of Jesus Christ.

*So Jesus said to his disciples, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of his glory, **you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.**"* (Mt. 19:28; emphasis added).

Now the wall of the city (of New Jerusalem) had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb (Rev. 21:14; cf. Eph. 2:20; Ed. note in parenthesis).

As stated in scripture, there are many who proved their trustworthiness over the course of their lives.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets (Heb. 11:32).

Many of these people went through severe trials and yet remained faithful and obedient even unto death.

They were stoned, they were sawn in two, slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth (Heb. 11:37-38).

These people, when resurrected, will hold positions of responsibility as leaders under Jesus Christ. This will guarantee that every nation on earth will have individuals in charge who have proven their obedience to God's law and commandments. Christ knows they will not be corrupted by any means, and that their motivation will be to help and serve others. The result of this faithful and obedient leadership is described in many prophecies.

*You shall weep no more. God will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it He will answer you. ²⁰And though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction (cf. Jer. 30:4-9), yet (afterward) **your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers.** ²¹**Your ears shall hear a word behind you saying, "This is the way, walk in it,"** whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left (instead of walking on the narrow pathway representing God's law and commandments; cf. Mt. 7:13-14) (Isa. 30:19b-21; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Then God will give the rain for your seed with which you sow the ground, and bread of the increase of the earth; it will be rich and plenteous. In that day your cattle will feed in large pastures. ²⁴Likewise the oxen and the young donkeys that work the ground will eat cured fodder, which has been winnowed with the shovel and fan. ²⁵There will be on every high mountain and every high hill rivers and streams of waters, in the day of great slaughter when the towers fall (cf. Jer. 30:4-9). ²⁶Moreover the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the Lord binds up the bruise of His people and heals the stroke of their wound (Isa. 30:23-26; Ed. note in parenthesis).

In stark contrast, today's political and religious leaders want to dismiss God's law and commandments, and the people who follow these leaders are negatively impacted as a result.

*This is a rebellious people, lying children, **children who will not hear the law of the Lord**; ¹⁰who say to the seers, "Do not see (God's word/truth)," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; (instead) speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits. ¹¹Get out of the way, turn aside from the (right) path and cause the Holy One to cease from before us." (Isa. 30:9-11; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added)*

Upon Christ's return to rule this planet, every political and religious authority will be removed and replaced by leaders who have already proven to be trustworthy, and obedient to God's law and commandments. There will no longer be political debates with their associated character assassinations. There will no longer be billions of dollars spent on political campaigns. In fact, elections, as we know them today, will not exist. Instead, Almighty God will appoint individuals based on their proven record of service to others (Mt. 20:23).

*Christ said to his disciples, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called "benefactors." ²⁶But no so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet **I am among you as One who serves**" (Lk. 22:25-27; cf. Mt. 20:25-28; emphasis added).*

In the early church of God, anyone seeking a position of responsibility had to be tested and

proven trustworthy according to specific criteria. This is a faithful saying:

If a man desires the position of an overseer, he desires a good work. ²But he must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach (God's word correctly); ³not addicted to wine, not violent, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not loving money; ⁴one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (respectful of authority) ⁵For if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?; ⁶Not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. ⁷Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside (God's church), lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil (1Tim. 3:17; cf. 1Tim. 3:8-13; Ed. notes in parentheses).


So, God has a high standard that must be met before anyone can be in a leadership position, and the final decision does not rest with "voters". Instead, it rests with the One who can read the inner motives of everyone who seeks to be an "overseer".

*But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but **the Lord looks at the heart**" (1Sam. 16:7; cf. 1Kgs. 8:39; emphasis added).*

David will be in a high leadership position because he loved God's law and commandments, despite the fact that he sinned like everyone else (Rom. 3:23).

*And when He had removed him (King Saul), he raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, "**I have found***

David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will" (Ac. 13:22; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).



I UNDERSTAND MORE THAN THE AGED,
BECAUSE I KEEP YOUR PRECEPTS. ¹⁰¹I
HAVE RESTRAINED MY FEET FROM
EVERY EVIL WAY, THAT I MAY KEEP
YOUR WORD.
Psalms 119:100-101

Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me (Ps. 119:97-98; emphasis added).

I understand more than the aged, because I keep Your precepts. ¹⁰¹I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word (Ps. 119:100-101).

How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴Through Your precepts I gain understanding; therefore I hate every false way (Ps. 119:103-104).

If there was one leader like David in a position of authority today, this world would be experiencing a foretaste of the kingdom of God. Sadly, this present age is completely under the deceptive influence of evil powers in the spirit realm (Gal. 1:4).

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against **spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places*** (Eph. 6:12; emphasis added).

Thankfully, the time is near when Christ will intervene in world affairs to punish these evil spirit beings, and usher in a new leadership comprised of those who have proven to be trustworthy and obedient servants of God.

*It shall come to pass in that day that **the Lord will punish on high the host of exalted ones**...* (Isa. 24:21a; emphasis added).

May God speed the day when "new world leaders" take up their rightful position and assist Jesus Christ in the reconstruction of this planet and the reeducation of everyone who is alive at this exciting time in world history.

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