



THREE KINGS

CHOOSE YOUR MASTER WISELY.

In the world of the ancient Hebrews, everyone served someone. It wasn't a question of if you would serve, but who you would serve. Everything you had came from someone else and it came with strings attached. Even some of the gods would serve other gods. The Israelites also wanted a king to serve. They were set apart from everyone else, but the rule of God was unusual for them. They had no great figure to look to when they went into battle. We know that God planned a king for them (namely Jesus) so their decision was premature and in disobedience to their true King. Would there be consequences?

IN THE BIBLE.

1 Samuel 8:4-9

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. According to all the deeds that they have done, from

the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”

Joshua 24:15

And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

QUESTIONS.

1. What do you think of the idea that everyone serves someone? That everyone leads someone?
2. What demonstrates who or what you owe your allegiance to?
3. Based on your life now, who would people say you show allegiance to?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?

