

GOD'S KINGS AND PRIESTS

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you! May the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! May the Lord turn his face upon you and give you peace!"

GOD KING - JUDGE - LAWGIVER

Is 33:22 ... the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king, he is the one who saves us.

Ps 47:7-8 ... God is king of all the earth; Sing him a solemn hymn. God reigns over the peoples; God sits on his holy throne.

Ps 145:13 Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth to all ages.

Ps 146:10 The LORD reigneth forever; thy God, O Zion, reigneth as king, all ages. Hallelujah.

JESUS CHRIST KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

1 Tim 6:14-15 ... at the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, which will be manifested in due time by the blessed and only sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Rev 19:11,13,16 "Then I saw the heavens opened, and behold, a white horse appeared. He who rode it is called Faithful and Truthful; because he judges and fights justly. He was clothed in a blood-dyed robe, and his name is God's Word. And on his robe and thigh he bears this name: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (DIVINE KING)

JESUS CHRIST THE ADVOCATE

1 Jn 2:1-2 ... we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. He is the propitiatory sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

JESUS CHRIST HIGH PRIEST

Heb 4:14 "Therefore, having a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us stand firm in the faith we profess.

Is 61:1-3,6-7 "The Spirit of the Lord of God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the humble; he sent me to bind up those who are brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to those who are bondage, the opening of the prison to captives, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who are afflicted; to put, to give to the afflicted of Zion a diadem instead of ashes, oil of joy instead of sorrow, the robe of praise instead of a downcast spirit, that they may be called terebinths of righteousness, the planting of the Lord to show his glory.

In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the judges, kings and prophets and manifested itself temporarily and usually brought prophetic words for the people of God, only a few privileged men had it within them; Today, thanks to the sacrifice of Christ Jesus, we have all received the gift of the Holy Spirit and in addition the gifts of the Spirit. This means that in us the Holy Spirit can produce his fruits and in addition lead us to carry out the service of kings and priests of the Most High God.

Before the establishment of kings in Israel, judges were appointed to establish justice among the people and to deliver the people from enemies.

The judges

Jas 3:9-10 "Then the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, and the LORD raised up a deliverer for them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, the younger brother of Caleb; and he delivered them. The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he was the judge of Israel; he went out to fight, and the LORD delivered Cushan-rishataim, king of Mesopotamia, into his hand; and his hand was mighty against Cushan-rishataim.

The last judge was Samuel.

Let us examine some scriptures to see the offices of kings and priests. In general, we can say that kings rule by making laws and decrees that must be respected, while priests intercede between God and the people for the forgiveness of sins. The king, however, is also sovereign over the priesthood.

Ex 19:5-6 "Therefore, if you do obey my voice, and keep my voice, covenant, you will be my special treasure among all peoples; for the whole earth is mine; and you will be a kingdom of priests to me, a holy nation." These are the words you will speak to the children of Israel."

In the time of human kings, some for greater power over all other nations were called kings of kings. The kings established by God had power over all kings of foreign nations, except in cases where the people of Israel sinned and turned away from God, then God punished his people by defeating their enemies.

Ed 7:12 Artaxerxes, king of kings... (King of Persia)

Ezek 26:7 ... thus says God the Lord: Behold, I am sending Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the king of kings, against Tyre with horses and chariots and knights, and a great multitude.

From 2:37 "You, O king, (Nebuchadnezzar) are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given kingdom, power, strength, and glory.

Deut 17:14-20 "When you have entered the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and have taken possession of it and dwelt in it, perhaps you will say, 'I want to have a king like all the nations around me.' Then you must put upon yourself as king the one whom the Lord your God has chosen. You shall put one of your people upon you as king; you shall not put a foreigner as king who is not of your people. But he must not have many horses, nor must he bring the people back to Egypt to get them, for the LORD has said to you, "You will never go that way again." Nor must he have many wives, lest he pervert his heart; nor must he have a large quantity of silver and gold. And when he takes his seat on his royal throne, he will write for his own use, in a book, a copy of this law according to the exemplar of the Levitical priests. He shall keep the book with him, and read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, and to do diligently

all the words of this law, and all these ordinances, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brethren, and he may not turn aside from these commandments either to the right hand or to the left. Thus he will prolong his days in his kingdom, he with his children, in the midst of Israel.

The people of Israel decided to have a human king like the other nations rather than God as King, even though God himself had promised both Abraham and Jacob that kings would come out of them.

Ge 17:3-6,15-16 "Then Abraham fell on his face to the ground, and God spoke to him, saying, 'As for me, this is the covenant I make with you; you will become the father of a multitude of nations; you will no longer be called Abraham, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will multiply you greatly, I will make you become nations, and kings will come out of you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her any more; her name will be, instead, Sara. I will bless her and give you a son by her; I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come out of her."

Ge 35:10-12 "God said to him, 'Your name is Jacob. You will no longer be called Jacob, but your name will be Israel.'" And he called it Israel. God said to him, "I am the Almighty God; be fruitful and manifold; a nation, indeed a multitude of nations will descend from you, kings will come out of your loins; I will give you and your descendants after you the land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac."

1 Sa 8:4-6-7 "Then all the elders of Israel gathered together, and went from Samuel to Ramah to say to him: "Behold, you are now old and your children do not follow in your footsteps; therefore set over us a king to administer justice to us, as all nations have." Samuel was displeased with this phrase: "Give us a king to administer justice in our midst." Therefore Samuel prayed to the Lord. Then the Lord said to Samuel, "Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they will say to you, for they have not rejected you, but me, that I may not reign over them.

The first king of the people of Israel was Saul, the last kings, Hosea (king of Israel) Mattaniah called Zedekiah (king of Judah). Despite that choice, God continued to love His people and found His favor with some of His servants.

Kings

Daniel, Ananias, Mishael, and Azariah in the kingdom of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon

Dan 1:1,6 1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon marched against Jerusalem and besieged it. Among them there were the sons of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah;

Dan 3:28-29 Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, and of Meshach, and of Abednego, who sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him, and transgressed the king's commandment, and exposed their bodies, that they might not serve or worship any other God than their own. Therefore I command the following: Whoever belongs to whatever people, nation, or tongue he belongs, shall speak evil of the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and let him be torn to pieces and his house reduced to a dunghill; for there is no other god that can save in this way."

Dn 4:30-37 And the king said, is this not the great Babylon which I have built for a royal residence by the power of my power, and for the glory of my majesty? The king was still speaking on his lips when a voice came from heaven and said, "Know, O King Nebuchadnezzar, that your kingdom is taken from you; you will be cast out from among men and dwell with the beasts of the field; they will feed you grass like oxen, and seven times will pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules over the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever he wills." At the same moment that word was fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar. He was cast out from among men, he ate grass like oxen, his body was wet with the dew of heaven, his hair grew like the feathers of eagles, and his nails became like those of birds. At the end of those days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, rolled my eyes and reason came back to me. I blessed the Most High, praised and glorified him who lives forever: his dominion is eternal dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are nothing before him; he acts as he pleases with the host of heaven and with the inhabitants of the earth; and there is no one who can stop his hand or say to him, "What are you doing?" At that time reason returned to me; the glory

of my kingdom, my majesty and my splendor were restored to me; My counsellors and my great ones sought me, I was restored to my kingdom, and my greatness was greater than what I had before. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because all his works are true and his ways right, and he has power to humble those who proceed with pride.

- These four servants of God descendants of Judah and sons of King Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:16-18) (although they were not kings or priests but only officials of a foreign king, because of the sins of the people and their fathers) were able to resist the king's decrees that went against God's law because of their faith, and God rewarded them, sparing their lives and turning the human kingdom and its decrees in favor of God's people.

Daniel in the reign of Darius, king of Medo-Persia

Dan 6:3-10,16,23-27 This Daniel was distinguished among the rulers and satraps, because there was an extraordinary spirit in him; the king thought he would establish him over all his kingdom. Then the rulers and satraps tried to find an opportunity to accuse Daniel of the administration of the kingdom, but they could find no occasion or cause for reproof, because he was faithful and there was no fault in him that could be reproached against him. And the men said, "We shall have no excuse to accuse this Daniel unless we find him in the law of his God." Then the rulers and satraps came tumultuously to the king and said to him, "Live forever, King Darius! All the rulers of the kingdom, the prefects and satraps, the counsellors and governors, have agreed that the king should promulgate a decree and impose a strict prohibition: whoever, for a period of thirty days, shall make a request to any god or man except you, O king, be thrown into the lions' den. Now, O king, promulgate the prohibition and sign the decree, so that it may be immutable according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which is irrevocable." King Darius then signed the decree and the prohibition. When Daniel heard that the decree was signed, he went to his house; and, keeping the windows of his upper chamber open towards Jerusalem, three times a day he knelt down, prayed and thanked his God as he was accustomed to do before. Then the king ordered Daniel to be taken and thrown into the lions' den. And the king spoke to Daniel and said to him, "Your God, whom

you serve with perseverance, will be the one to deliver you." Daniel was pulled out of the pit and no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. By order of the king, the men who had accused Daniel were taken and thrown into the lions' den with their children and wives. No sooner had they reached the bottom of the pit than the lions rushed upon them and crushed all their bones. Then King Darius wrote to the people of every people, nation, and tongue who dwelt throughout the earth, "May peace and prosperity be given to you in abundance! I decree that in all the territory of my kingdom the God of Daniel should be feared and respected, for he is the living God who endures forever; his kingdom will never be destroyed and his dominion will last to the end. He liberates and saves, he performs signs and wonders in heaven and on earth. He is the one who freed Daniel from the lions' paws."

- Daniel's faith prevailed over the arrogance of rulers and the decrees of the human kingdom and subjected them to God's Kingdom.

Ezra priest of God in the kingdom of Artaxerxes king of Persia

Ed 7:12,21,36 Artaxerxes, king of kings, to Ezra, a priest and scribe who was skilled in the law of the God of heaven, and so on. I decree that in my kingdom, whoever of the people of Israel, their priests and Levites is willing to go with you to Jerusalem, let him go. I, King Artaxerxes, command all the treasurers beyond the river to deliver without delay to Ezra, priest and scribe, expert in the law of the God of heaven, all that he asks of you. ... they presented the king's decrees to the king's satraps and governors across the river, and they were well disposed toward the people and the house of God.

Ed 7:6,23,25-28 "This Ezra came from Babylon. He was a scribe who was skilled in the law of Moses, given by the LORD, the God of Israel. As the hand of the LORD his God was upon him, the king gave him all that he asked. All that is commanded by the God of heaven is to be punctually done for the house of the God of heaven. For why should the wrath of God be poured out upon the kingdom, upon the king and his sons? And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom with which your God has endowed you, appoint magistrates and judges to administer justice to all the people beyond the river, to all those who know the laws of your God; and you make them known to those

who do not know them. Without hesitation you will do justice to those who do not keep the law of your God and the law of the king, and you will punish him with death or exile, with a fine or with imprisonment. Blessed be the LORD, the God of our fathers, who has thus ordained the king's heart to honor the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, and who has procured for me the goodwill of the king, and his counselors, and all his mighty rulers. And I, strengthened by the hand of the LORD of my God, which was upon me, gathered together the rulers of Israel to go with me.

- Ezra the priest gained the king's favor to restore the priesthood in Jerusalem and enforce God's law and the king's law.

Mordecai in the kingdom of Ahasuerus, king of Medo-Persia

Et 3:1,5-6,8-9,12-13 After these things, King Ahasuerus raised Aman the son of Ammedata, the Agagite, to the highest dignity, and set his seat above those of all the princes who were with him. Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or prostrate himself before him, so he was very irritated; but it seemed to him a small thing to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him to what people Mordecai belonged. So he tried to destroy Mordecai's people, that is, all the Jews who were in all the kingdom of Ahasuerus. And Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a people separated and scattered among the peoples of all the provinces of your kingdom, whose laws are different from those of every other people, and who do not keep the laws of the king; it is therefore not in the king's interest to tolerate it. If the king agrees, let him make a decree to destroy it... On the thirteenth day of the first month, the king's secretaries were summoned, and they wrote, following the orders of Haman, to the king's satraps, and to the governors of every province, and to the rulers of every people, to every province according to its own writing, and to every people in its own language. The writing was written in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed with the royal seal. Letters were sent by couriers to all the provinces of the king, asking them to destroy, kill and exterminate all the Jews, young and old, children and women, on the same day, the thirteenth of the twelfth month, that is, the month of Adar, and to abandon their goods to plunder.

Et 4:3,15-16 "In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great anguish among the Jews: they fasted, wept, and complained, and many made sackcloth and ashes as beds. Then Esther ordered Mordecai to be answered, "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Shushan, and fast for me, and be without eating or drinking for three days, night and day. I will fast with my handmaids in the same way; and after that I will go in to the king, though it is against the law; and if I must perish, let me perish!"

Et 7:3-4,6,10 Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor in your eyes, O king, and if it pleases the king, my request is that life be given to me; and my desire, that my people be given to me. Because I and my people were sold to be destroyed, killed, exterminated. If we had been sold to become slaves and slaves, I would not have spoken; but our adversary could not repair the damage done to the king by our death." Esther answered, "The adversary, the enemy, is that wicked man Haman." So Haman was hanged on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai, and the king's anger was calmed.

Et 8:7-8,13,17 "Then King Ahasuerus said to Esther the queen and Mordecai the Jew, Write, therefore, in favor of the Jews, as you see fit, in the name of the king, and seal with the royal ring; for what is written in the name of the king and sealed with the royal ring, is irrevocable." These letters contained a copy of the decree that was to be proclaimed in every province and published among all the peoples, in order that the Jews might be ready for that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. In every province, in every city, wherever the king's order and his decree arrived, there was joy, enthusiasm, banquets and feasts among the Jews. Many of the peoples of the land became Jews, because the fear of the Jews had taken hold of them.

- In this case, the intervention and faith of Queen Esther and Mordecai ensured the survival of the exiles of Israel and many foreigners joined them.

In all these examples we see two points in common:

1 - As kings or men of faith, having overcome the trials and receiving forgiveness, they consented to the subordination of human government to the Government of God.

2 - As priests or men of faith, the firmness of his servants' faith in God, precisely because God put them to the test and they overcame it not only for themselves, but for all the people, interceding for God's forgiveness, obtained respect for God's law and victory in the battle against the enemy.

The priests

God had chosen the tribe of Levi for the priesthood among his people

Ex 30:30 And thou shalt anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, to serve me as priests.

Ex 40:15 ... Their anointing will confer upon them an everlasting priesthood, from generation to generation.

Deut 17:8-12 "When the judgment of a case is too difficult for you, whether it be a murder or a controversy or an injury, and it is a cause of dispute in your city, you will arise and go up to the place that the Lord your God has chosen; Thou shalt go unto the Levitical priests, and to the judge who was in office at that time, and thou shalt consult them, and they shall make known unto thee what the law saith; thou shalt conform unto thee whatsoever they shall declare unto thee, and thou shalt take care to do whatsoever they shall command thee. You shall conform to the law which they have taught you, and to the sentences which they have pronounced; you will not deviate from what they have taught you, neither to the right nor to the left. And the man who presumes not to listen to the priest who is there to serve the LORD thy God, or to the judge, that man shall die; and thou shalt take away evil from Israel.

ML 2:7 ... the lips of the priest are the guardians of knowledge, and out of his mouth the law is sought, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

The earthly examples of kings and priests are nothing more than spiritual functions for us, recognizing who we are in Christ: children of God, kings and priests.

THE CHILDREN OF GOD - KINGS AND PRIESTS OF GOD

Lk 12:32 "Do not be afraid, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Rev 1:5-6 ... Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the prince of kings of the earth. To him who loves us, and has freed us from our sins with his blood, and has made us kings, and priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Rev 5:9-10 ... You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals, because you were sacrificed and purchased for God, with your blood, people of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation, and made us kings, and priests to our God; and we will reign on earth."

Is 61:6-7 ... ye shall be called priests of the Lord, and the people shall call you. ministers of our God; you will eat the riches of the nations, their glory will fall to you. Instead of your shame, you will have a double share; instead of infamy, you will rejoice in your fate. Yes, in their own country they will possess twice as much and have everlasting happiness.

1 Peter 2:5,9-10 "You also, as living stones, are built up to form a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people, a people whom God has purchased for himself, that you may proclaim the virtues of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; you, who were not a people before, but are now the people of God.

1 - As king, of the KING of kings Jesus Christ, we have authority to decree in the spirit laws and decrees against evil spirits and demons, but also against adverse situations and circumstances produced by them or by the men who follow them.

2 - As priests, we have the authority of the High Priest Jesus Christ to bind and dissolve spiritual bonds, intercede with spiritual prayers in tongues, and live faith in Christ Jesus as overcomers, because He has already won for us.

Let's ask a few questions:

Who is the King of the Earth? God! But it is not respected and considered.

Who are the human rulers? Those chosen by man and not by God.

Which law is superior to all others? God's law! But human law prevails on earth.

What can we do as God's kings and priests?

The first thing is to respect God's law and human law when it is not contrary to God's Word.

As kings we can with our mouths make decrees to block all the unjust laws of the demons transmitted to man, declaring the revocation and abolition in the name of Jesus, the dismissal of ungodly human institutional offices in favor of the God-fearing.

Here are some things we can decree invalidating unjust laws for, to remove them in Jesus' name:

- The law on the death penalty. (in Italy it has been abolished)
- The law on abortions. (The Sacrifice of the Innocents)
- The law of euthanasia. (decision on life or death)
- The law on same-sex marriage.
- The gender law (choice of male or female identity)
- The abuse of power by both political and ecclesiastical authorities.
- The dismissal of ungodly human institutional offices in favor of the God-fearing.
- Genetic manipulation on humans.
- Artificial insemination.
- The trade in prostitution and pedophilia.
- The trade in human organs.
- All immoral laws that harm human dignity and life.

As priests we can intercede by praying for rulers and institutions, bind and loose or restrict all areas of our lives by the enemy.

Things we can tie (i.e. declare illegal) or dissolve (declare legal) or restrict:

- Always denounce sin (never justify it), disobedience and rebellion.
- Eliminate spells, spells, rituals, spells, curses, etc.

- Don't compromise
- Always give the sinner the opportunity to repent
- Forgive, bless
- Distance yourself from those who practice idolatry in the heart, sexual immorality, those who honor God only with words and not in practice.

2 Corinthians 13:13 "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.