

The following is a set of three words from the Lord that while birthed over months and to some extent separate revelations that have in fact some common threads, and seem to be part of an insight into the season in the Lord God in which we are now entering.

Tale of two kings...the people's choosing or the Lord's!

Recently God has been bringing to the forefront some insights from perhaps one of the great true governance stories revealed in scripture...that of the first two kings of Israel (Saul and David). The sense particularly is that they provide clarity to the leadership God is desiring...and indeed planning..for countries around the world including Australia and the USA. In fact in the month or so leading up to the recent US Presidential election it seemed that God was pointing at the likely outcome in the short term, but also the one He is seeking....and who we are yet to see.

As we see in 1 Samuel 8 the people were demanding a king so they could be like other countries, and perhaps, because they found it hard to follow an invisible King (God). In their protests, and lack of faith in God to deal with Samuel's sons (who did not walk in his ways), they rejected Samuel's warnings of the behaviour of kings, but most sadly, they rejected God (1 Sam. 8:7). Out of this background God allows them to have their king instructing Samuel that he is to **"heed their voice, and make them a king"** (1 Sam. 8:22). Later on the Lord in fact reveals to the prophet who he is to anoint as king (1 Sam. 9), and God confirms that to Saul (from the tribe of Benjamin) through signs, and indeed to the people (1 Sam. 10:17). Revealing all authority is appointed by the Lord (Rom. 13:1)

So here we have it, a king demanded by the people out of fear and a lack of faith, but allowed and in fact appointed and anointed by the Lord through Samuel, who in fact in the world's eyes is an obvious choice (tall, handsome, and son of a wealthy and powerful man). Now as a student of the word (Torah), and a devout prophet, Samuel struggled with this...including the fact that the Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin and not Judah (from whom the true king is to arise), and yet in obedience to the Lord he undertook the command..perhaps knowing that above all God's word will not fail.

Of course we see the downfall of Saul as he caves in to the fear of men and their pressures (perhaps inevitable given the intent and spirit of the people who wanted a king). As Samuel grieves his fall, and makes it clear to Saul he is no longer the Lord's choice (see 1 Sam. 13 7 15), he reveals that God has chosen one a man after His own heart to rule. In fact God says. **"I have provided Myself a king"** to rule Israel (1 Sam. 16:1). So here you have it, a ruddy shepherd boy, with a heart for worship and after the God, the youngest and almost forgotten son of a family in the tribe of Judah, anointed and appointed by God ...a far cry from the first choice of a man who is the handsome, and tall son of a powerful man....but the one who is the start of fulfilling God's prophecy (Gen. 49:10).

It takes some 15 years after David's anointing by Samuel to become king of Judah, and another 7 before he is king over all Israel....and be given the seat of a throne whose reign will be eternal in the fulfilment commenced in Christ over 1000 years later, and total fulfilment on earth (as it is in heaven)to be fulfilled in these the latter days. Lessons for prophets here...think eternal.

So what! Well in the terms of leadership today, have we learnt...or do we still presume to place kings on thrones based on what is important in our hearts (the old 'we get the kings we deserve'), or will we seek the Lord to raise up the one who will reign over his people on His behalf. A person who may not be the most obvious outward candidate (although they are proven in battle and servant

hood), but has a heart devoted from childhood to our Lord God, and is anointed with leadership, God's heart, and perhaps comes from a very humble background. **Be encouraged USA**, and other nations (and churches), there is such a one to come. He or she will be first revealed through the prophets, and may even be persecuted by the establishment of the day, but will come. For we have learnt in David that when you are anointed to be king by the Lord you will become king (but there are battles etc that lie ahead). God's word will come to pass.

At the risk of offending others, my sense is that neither Obama, nor Romney, represented the king God has made for Himself, rather the one people demanded. In the weeks leading to the election I wrestled with the fact that God seemed to be talking of a Davidic kingship, and yet I did not sense that was present in the main contenders, even though it was understandable why we could see many concerned about President Obama based on moral values. Perhaps we had become too involved in the apparent practical reality of the election system not to see the need to continue pursue in prayer and prophecy the one made by God for Himself, and to trust He will in His timing cause this king to assume the presidency.

So while it was important to cast a vote, please do not lose sight of the fact that God seeks His government on earth as it is in heaven and for each nation (and His church) in time one(s) after His heart will be raised up. Can we accept the leading of the prophets and His people in making such a choice, and hope and pray the un-anointed move on soon so the appointed can fill the gaps? This journey to the throne certainly proving that we need look beyond the human system! Recalling to that such an anointed will emerge over some time...but we need to recognise such an appointment by God.

There is much more that God seems to reveal about the choices, however here is just a few more items that our Lord appears to be saying we need to learn from (and thus pray):

- The prophetic gifting and anointing will reveal leaders made by God for Himself for positions of leadership, but many years may pass before they are allowed to ascend to the Lord's appointed throne. So we are to trust the Lord's timing and seek His king. In rejecting these words of appointment people are not rejecting the prophet, rather God Himself.
- A king anointed by God will be crowned such in due season despite the battles and resistance – including from those in leadership. Notice how David's ascension to the throne only came after the death of Saul.
- In truth, the King of kings is the ultimate choice, and that until Jesus Christ returns, any government on earth needs to align to His, and our prayer is for that and to seek His hand to restore society...not a restoration that comes through a man's effort in leadership.
- When prophets declare what they sense God saying, don't get too concerned when things do not appear to be unravelling as you had hoped. Rather think eternally and consider how it was after almost 1900 years after Jacob prophesied that "the sceptre shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes" (Gen. 49:10), that this confirmation of the eternal throne is revealed in Christ...and we are still waiting some 2000 years on for the final completion when He returns.
- When Saul was no longer anointed to be the king, we can see that his continuance in the role could occur despite the hand of grace been lifted and much harm coming to his kingdom...a warning for others in leadership and roles in church and the marketplace. Yet a

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wonderful tension applies between the free will of man and the will of God...and that He will watch over His Word to perform it.

- And so much more....

So church and state, **rejoice** in the knowledge that the Lord indeed has already made for Himself our true leader, Christ the King, and that until His return, God is still in the business of making for Himself king(leaders) to govern His people on earth. Our response is to pursue this knowledge in prayer and intercession; understand prophets will be led by the Lord to these anointed ones; and for us all to trust the Lord that He has such individuals prepared and we should make wise choices...**looking beyond the external to the one with the heart after God**. Ironically these appointed leaders have in their heart one desire, to see people move away from needing an earthly king, to a place they are able to devote themselves solely to Christ the king...in preparation for His return.

Changing Seasons

Thank you Lord we are entering in to the season of outpouring (on all flesh), signs and wonders, and the gathering of nations to the Valley of Decision, where the Lord enters in to judgment. This is a time of greater signs and wonders, bringing the nations into an era of repentance. The dawn of a new era has arrived, ushered in by heavenly signs and wonders, even the planet and stars used by God to signify changes to a new season (Is. 13:10, Matt. 27:45, Mk. 13:24, Luke 21:25, Acts 2:20, Rev. 6:12)

There is a strong sense that we are moving/have moved in to a new season, where there are signs and wonders that are going to reveal what will come in the end of days. Signs in heaven even, signifying we are in the days of the Valley of Decision, the Valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:1). Where the Lord is a refuge and strength for His people, causing a restoration and renewal, and a new move of God; and yet a sorting and shaking of authorities and nations where injustice and slavery will be dealt with, and there are seasons of war. In the latter days we will move from a place where Christ's presence is so real, and His visitation as one as a friend in our midst, to where He will begin to take us through the valley to Zion, His home and the place He is enthroned and the glory realm abiding.

Consider Joel 2: 28-32 where the outpouring of the Spirit of God is prophesied, and then Joel 3:1-18 we see this amazing season of blessing, judgement of nations (see also Matt. 25:31-34), refuge and restoration of His people, and the flow of new wine, milk, and flow of His Living Water. This reveals well the remarkable contrasts we will see in this season. While the first great outpouring of His the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, with great signs and wonder, a move of repentance, and new moves of God, it seems there is also times where a fresh wave of God can come like this in the latter days...as a fore runner to His second coming.

We should not fear such this valley for it is a place where His staff/rod is with us, and we can eat at His table and rejoice in His goodness, despite the enemy be present (Ps. 23). Keys to this season are knowing Christ as a friend and lover, and His dominion...given to us. It is in fact the time He begins to gather His people and prepare for the great ascent. There is a sense that we are entering in to a season that is a foretaste of this last day time, and one where the Lord is asking us to trust Him in a new journey with Him...and where new wineskins are vital, and relationships that first honour Him,

and then others, and to seek His government...not the ones popular with people because it panders to their needs, rather those that pull on heavens demand.

The valley is a time of great glory and great darkness, and one where decisions are vital...knowing He is so gracious. We are to be obedient to His positioning and seize the moment as the move of His Spirit springs up suddenly, moving freely with our Lord's leading. As others have prophesied, this is a time with a greater prophetic anointing will be revealed, particularly in those who have been trained in the trials of humility and faithful obedience. The awaking of the Witness prophet is upon us, where great and many signs and wonders will be revealed. There are those who have been trained in these recent years who have learnt to understand the timing of the Lord, listen to them closely for the Lord has blessed us with such saints to help guide through this new journey...one not trodden before (except by Christ).

In Psalm 23 we receive a prophetic revelation of how this walk unfolds, from the Mount of Olives (where Jesus gathered with His friends), through the Kedron Brook Valley, up to Jerusalem (where He was/will be enthroned). The sense of God presence is real through the whole journey, and the peace even in the darkest part sublime, where we sup with the Lord at His table in the face of the enemy, unto the overflow of His cup. His presence nurtured on the mountain now continues with us through the journey. As Christ prophesied this through King David, and then walked it out, and will again at His return, so too prophets have also paved the way. Importantly this journey in the days leading Christ's victory at Calvary saw Him walk to and fro through this valley a few times before He paid the price for our sins, and so perhaps we see journeys could occur...this time though working out the victory that Jesus has already achieved. As we are in Christ, the journey now to Jerusalem is the one taken to sit upon the throne (or perhaps one of gathering to His throne room). Interestingly Christ journeyed to and fro through the valley from Mount of Olives (representing the place of His abiding presence with friends, and a prophetic watch), to Jerusalem (representing the place of His throne and heaven, and where His glory abides).

Total War

Disturbingly, but most compelling, has been a phrase revealed to me by God...that is "total war". There is a sense in these days we are entering in to a new season of great glory but also great darkness (Ezek. 38, Joel 3, Matt. 24). For those in Christ, this is a place of refuge and victory, and yet one that requires us to know that forces are aligning for something called "total war"....where everything becomes united and subject to one concept...the prosecution of war. We have perhaps seen this partially revealed in natural the past in war on the eastern front between Germany and the Soviet Union (in WW II), the general war effort in times of such conflicts, in the devoted fanaticism of some Islamic groups, and even first pioneered in modern warfare by General Sherman during the Civil war of the United States, in his famous 'march to the sea'.

However, there is a sense that in the spiritual realm we are going to have to learn to battle in total warfare strategies, where of course the battle is not against flesh and blood and our weapons are not carnal (2. Cor. 10:4). This requires a commitment to a united focus on coordinated battles in the physical and spiritual realms (2 Samuel 5:23-25). Such warfare will require whole of body obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and working together with the angelic hosts at the command of the

Captain of the Lord's Army..Jesus Christ. We will see land forces (pastoral care, evangelism, hospitality, healing etc), work in conjunction with the air (prophecy, intercession, signs and wonders) and naval forces (ministries), and operate in both large battalions as well as small multi-skilled cells. Key is the united understanding that the Lord will be revealing heaven's battle blueprints to apostolic and prophetic strategist...and all under the Lord's guidance. Thus key training for this season has been one of obedience, learning to lead as Christ, and trust those who see in the supernatural realm.

This season has one obvious concern, that as much as we will see this occur in the spiritual realms, there is a real sense that once again we will see nations or realms rise up to employ such doctrines of war on the leading of man's desires or demonic forces. Where the whole of a nation can be "legitimately" involved and impacted by war strategies and not just a battle between the armed forces (and thus perhaps disregard for the Geneva conventions of war). As well as the previously mentioned examples of total war, we have also seen strategies described in the Bible, and even deployed by the Israelites. Such war touching everything, being a demonstration of power, demoralising, and one where the perpetrators are unmoved by lamentation. Total war strategies will see realms align their air, army, naval, cyber, biological, terrorist cells, and perhaps even spiritual forces in a united strategy. The key high ground here is the ability to unite such a diverse set of forces...around a common goal, and devotion unparalleled.

Nations such as Australia, and their allies, would do well to seek God's hand of victory (for that is the position which we are to intercede from – one of victory already purchased), and learn to prepare its people to respond with like strategies. This will be a foreign concept for us...where we have left the armed forces to battle for us. This will see the need for levels of coordination not seen previously across our defence forces and civilian law enforcement, as well as in the community, to have such a multi-tiered defence and attack strategy. Where we have cells trained and equipped for battle across the country, conventional and cyber warfare units prepared for united strategies of war, and defences against biological attacks that come not just from obvious germ warfare, but the subtle and more long term scheme of weakening the community through so called normal seasonal illnesses that are in fact exasperated by targeted spread of new strains of viral and bacterial infections. All possible to be prepared for by community campaigns as well as a release of healing troops under the anointing of God, and promoting divine health. This army of troops need leadership who equip and release.

This spiritual troops are most important, and can counter such coordinated attacks both from the natural and second heaven realms...interceding against war. These troops have been trained well in the secret, are devoted to God in worship, and operate out of a realm of intimacy with Christ and faith in God. Importantly, they move quickly with the Holy Spirit and are very capable of moving in the Kingdom of God realm – just like King David. In Australia the heroes of the light horse and there taking of Beersheba and the Holy Lands, reveal the traits of such a troop. Pioneer children raised in perseverance, even in hardship, well trained in riding and use of weapons, trained in the freedom of the bush and open plain. People of faith, chivalry, boldness and character, and devoted to their country and 'mates'. There is a call being ushered at the blowing of the trumpet and the sounds of the voice, calling this spiritual troop to ride and move fast..releasing the Spirit of the light horse. The leaders of such a troop ones after the heart of God, servants, and yet trained for war, who are able

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to bring training and discipline to the troop while still allowing and nurturing their free spirit. Perhaps like David and his mighty men, trained in caves and fleeing the appointed kings.

All of this seems over the top, and some may appear somewhat like conspiracy theory, however there is a strong sense that despite my only natural inclinations to not want to even go there, the Lord is speaking clearly that we need to be ready, knowing in Him we have a refuge and victory. Importantly, as we war from His perspective in the heavenlies, we do so knowing it is from a position that we are more than conquerors in the Lord Jesus, and one of victory assured. To prepare our nations for such seasons will require first prophecy and intercession.