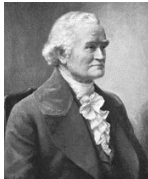


Session Four

God's View and You

The Scepter of Righteousness

Presiding



Noah Webster

Preside:

- 1) To be set over for the exercise of authority; to direct, ... to govern.
- 2) To exercise superintendence; to watch over...

Root of the word for "President."

We Are Called To Preside

(Luke 19:12-13 NKJV)

Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. 13 "So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'

(Ephesians 1:18-21 NKJV)

...what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

We Are Called To Preside


Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, ... teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."

(1 Corinthians 6:1-3 NKJV)

Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?

The Scepter of Righteousness

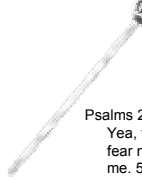


Hebrews 1:8 (NKJV)
But to the Son He says: "*Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A **scepter of righteousness** is the scepter of Your Kingdom.*"

(quote from Psalm 45:6)

Greek: rhabdos, hrab'-dos; a stick or wand (as a cudgel, a cane or a baton of royalty):--rod, sceptre, staff.

The Scepter of Righteousness



Hebrews 1:8 (NKJV)
But to the Son He says: "*Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, A **scepter of righteousness** is the scepter of Your Kingdom.*"

(quote from Psalm 45:6)

Psalms 23:4-5 (KJV)
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy **rod** and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Hebrew: shebet, shay'-bet; a stick for punishing, writing, fighting, ruling, walking, etc. Figuratively, a clan

Examples of Scepters

**King Ahasuerus
extending the
golden scepter
to Queen Esther**

(Esther 5:1-3)



Esther Confronts Government

Cast of Characters

Esther

Hathach

Mordecai

Haman

King Ahasuerus

Esther Confronts Government

Mordecai sends a copy of the decree to Esther

(Esther 4:8-12 NKJV)

He also gave him a copy of the written decree for their destruction, which was given at Shushan, that he might show it to Esther and explain it to her, and that he might command her to go in to the king to make supplication to him and plead before him for her people. 9 So Hathach returned and told Esther the words of Mordecai. 10 Then Esther spoke to Hathach, and gave him a command for Mordecai: 11 "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days." 12 So they told Mordecai Esther's words.

Esther Confronts Government

Mordecai counsels Esther regarding the temptation to "not get involved" and challenges her to reach for her destiny and purpose.

(Esther 4:13-14 NKJV)

And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. 14 "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Esther Confronts Government

Esther asks for an organized pray and fasting effort as she decides to go against the law and risk her life for the people of God His purpose.

(Esther 4:15-16 NKJV)

Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!"

Revelation 12:11 (NKJV)

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Esther Confronts Government

Esther fasts for three days and goes into the king's court where he could see her.

(Esther 5:1 NKJV)

Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house. 2 So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter. 3 And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you; up to half the kingdom!"

Esther Confronts Government

What gave Esther favor in the King's eyes?

Prayer and Fasting. The king was in a good mood.

Proverbs 21:1 (NKJV)
The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

Esther's Beauty. Her beauty caused an immediate attraction, not rejection.

Esther 2:7 (NKJV)
...The young woman was lovely and beautiful...

Psalms 29:2 (NKJV)
Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Esther Confronts Government

Esther received great governmental authority.

Esther 5:3 (NKJV)

And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you: up to half the kingdom!"

How did she use it?

She exposed government corruption.

Brought freedom to her people.

What has King Jesus given us?

Grace and the Gift of Righteousness

(Romans 5:17-18 NKJV)

...much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **will reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ.

(2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV)

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

What has King Jesus given us?

Who Are You?

You Are the Righteousness of God

(2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV)

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become **the righteousness of God** in Him.

What has King Jesus given us?

What is the Scepter of His Kingdom?



Hebrews 1:8 (NKJV)

But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom."

You are God's Righteousness so...

You Are the Scepter of His Kingdom!

What has King Jesus given us?

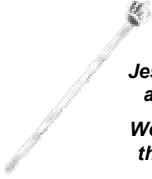


Psalms 110:1-3 (NKJV)

1 A Psalm of David. The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." 2 The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. **Rule in the midst of Your enemies!** 3 Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

We are called to rule!

What has King Jesus given us?



Jesus has given us all authority to go and make disciples of the nations.

We are the Scepter of Righteousness that He is extending into this world.

We are called to rule!

Concluding Statement

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (KJV)

1 To every *thing there* is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: ... 8 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

It is a time of war, not peace. God's calling challenges us to act. We are His Righteous Scepter called to rule in this life. Doing so will undoubtedly generate conflict on some level. But as Esther said, "...if I perish, I perish." But as Mordecai told her, "Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Because of our inaction in the face of evil, we have allowed a rouge individuals to infiltrate our government...

...who no longer honor the law of God or our constitution. They have brought our nation to the brink of destruction. It is time for us to remember who we are and get involved. It is time to fight for what is right, not with bullets, but with ballots. Not in fear but in faith with prayer and fasting. Not with humanistic reasoning, but with the truth of God's Word. The Truth shall set us, and all who receive it, free.

In doing so, we not only fulfill our role as God's ambassadors in this age, but prepare the way for the kingdom of God to come on earth as it is in heaven.