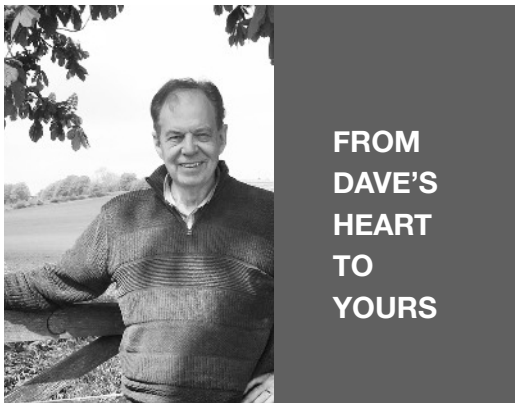




A TALE OF TWO KINGDOMS



FROM
DAVE'S
HEART
TO
YOURS

It was Coronation week in the UK as I began to sit down, contemplate and muse over Kingdom and its role in our lives.

I was drawn in even more by a scene which I had just witnessed on one of the British television channels. It was a full-dress rehearsal of the spectacle which would take place in just a few days time, to be watched by millions around the world. The thing which struck me most about the rehearsal was the moment the imposing, exceptionally tall gold carriage drew up outside Westminster Abby in the dark of night or early hours of the morning. The carriage had been designed by Sir William

Chambers in the 1700's to celebrate the coronation of King George III in 1761 and has been used in the Coronation of every British monarch ever since.

What fascinated me was how they ceremoniously opened the door of the magnificent carriage, even folded the steps down for the alighting monarch to descend, only to peer in and discover that there was no monarch inside. How similar to that first Easter, I thought, when Mary and those disciples peered into the tomb, only to discover it was empty, the King was not there!

I began to reflect on the two kingdoms, one eternal, the other temporal.

I couldn't help but process the stark contrast, how one King would ride to his coronation on a donkey, with palm branches and coats being laid at his feet.

The other riding in a gold-plated carriage with lush carpets rolled out for his path.

The difference between these two scenarios was that one King was coronated once for all, and would never again return to the tomb, whilst the earthly monarchs would continue to return to this carriage time and again, just as they have done for the past several hundred years.

I have always been a great proponent of Kingdom, particularly the British. I think it is good for a nation's self-worth, including our Holy Nation. Both temporal and eternal Kingdoms bring forth continuity and a sense of identity which in turn brings security and wellbeing to its citizens. This particularly when we are promised that 'He has placed eternity in our hearts' (Eccl 3:11), yet it is only when we lay hold of this promise that we can begin to fully appreciate the significance of the one Kingdom over the other.

As I further reflected, I once again felt a sense of awe, recalling the glorious prophetic declaration which Isaiah pronounced into the Heavens more than 600 years before the coming of King Jesus.... 'and the government will rest upon His shoulders.....and there will be no end the increase of His government'... (Isa9:6-7) What an amazing truth God was stirring in me, with fresh insight and excitement regarding this ancient truth. I couldn't help but realize how permanent the one kingdom was and how temporal the other.

Our mortality was another dimension which crossed my mind. Immortality is what we are in King Jesus... the glorious dispensation in which we now dwell, having transitioned from mere mortality. Immortality, we understand is not liable or subject to death, as to be bound by earthly constraints, once again highlighting the fragility of man's institutions.

My thoughts drifted back to Queen Elizabeth II who had passed recently, the reason the coronation we were about to witness had come about... She had ruled for over 70 years. How she had been revered, loved, and respected. Why was this? Could it be that she

too was a daughter of the Most High? One who had also been born again, who had worked out her 'salvation with fear and trembling' and who understood the scripture that 'when He comes, we will be like Him' and that we are to 'be perfect, even as our Father which is in heaven is perfect'.

Yet she too had to stand before the Irreplaceable Monarch, she being the replaceable mortal one. Isn't it amazing that Jesus is the King of Kings...

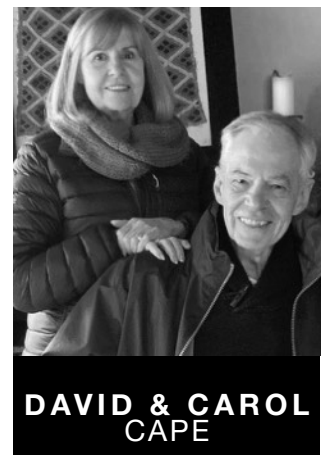
Elizabeth's King, where she and others are merely kings of mortals.

Have you ever considered how 'subjects' operate in a kingdom? In most kingdoms across the earth since time in memorial and particularly in emerging cultures, the subjects remain subservient. Although in sophisticated democratic societies this is somewhat different. The unique thing is that in the heavenly kingdom the 'subjects' become joint heirs, a royal priesthood and a holy nation. In the natural this is quite unbelievable, but it's true. So much to celebrate, so liberating.

The Holy Nation empowers its subjects to live in the fullness of bringing the mind of Christ to the decision-making process as we are led by the Spirit and live in the reality of 'Thy Kingdom come on earth, as it is in Heaven'.

May your joy be full as you delight in being co-labourers and joint heirs in establishing the Kingdom with the everlasting King, whose name is Jesus.

Dave





KINGDOM CLIP



IMPACT THOUGHTS FROM OUR 50 YEAR JOURNEY

Here in the USA it is Father’s Day, a great day to write a Kingdom Clip and restate one of the greatest “impact thoughts” that changed our lives so many years ago.

As Dave has pointed out in the main article, that from a tomb 2000 years ago a King rose! He rose to free us from the penalty of sin, give us eternal life, launch the fresh day of His Kingdom rule on earth and open the door to a relationship with His father. We could know the Father Heart and become sons and daughters of God. Part of a royal family whose Kingdom will know no end.

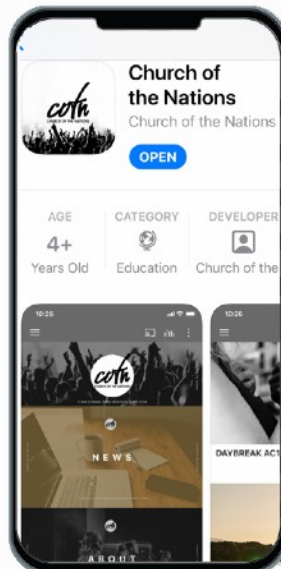
Our dad is King of the Kingdom and through the blood of Jesus we can cry Abba (Daddy) Father. As the old gospel song says, “His blood is flowing through us now, royalty has found a home”.

Tony



TONY & MARILYN FITZGERALD

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