

# ONE WORLD

Summary of a sermon given by Ron Dart given 13/3/99

Originally God was the king over Israel. It was never God's purpose for them to have another king.

Control over Israel was centralized under the leadership of Moses and Joshua who were judges under the king who was God. After the conquest that centralization of authority they needed as the people were an army on the move was no longer needed after the conquest of the land. After the conquest of the land they had judges throughout the land, primarily in the cities of refuge. The government in the land appears to have been primarily local community government under a number of judges rather than a national government.

In Judges 21:25 we read, "In those days there was no king in Israel and everyone did what was right in their own eyes." A lot of people have the mistaken idea that because there was no human king there was anarchy with people doing what was right in their own eyes. There were judges and there was authority to convict those who thought that they could break the law with impunity. The thrust of the passage is that people had the freedom to do what he saw was right and he was accountable for his actions.

This system worked very well in the early days after the conquest. Not only did Israel serve and obey God in the days of Joshua but also in the days of those elders who outlived Joshua. After that whenever they obeyed God, God blessed them and when they forgot God they had war and invasion from their enemies. This cycle repeated itself over and over again until the Israelites had enough of it and wanted a different solution.

This is part of the story of man in general. In times of confusion and chaos the desire for order and peace and quiet becomes stronger and stronger in a people to the place where they are willing to lay down their freedom in order to have some kind of order and stability in their land.

They don't realize that the answer lies not in giving up some of their freedom which Israel did when they asked for a king but in the heart of man, of changing their ways and living by God's laws and having those laws being enforced in a godly way by those appointed by God. Instead of collectively changing our ways and turning back to God as a people we start looking for a system, a method, for a governmental solution to our problems.

In 1 Samuel 8 we read the story of how the people were happy to serve under Samuel but they saw that he was getting old and his sons were disobedient and so the elders all got together with Saul and demanded of him that they have a king like the rest of the nations around them.

In effect, they said, "Our government system is not strong enough. It isn't centralized sufficiently to the point to where there is someone who has the power to pull together an army, to conscript soldiers, to defend us against our enemies who keep invading us from

every side. We need a strong central authority. We want a king!" They would give up much of their freedom to have one.

Christ is coming back to return as King of kings to set up God's kingdom on earth and it will be a restoration of how the governmental system originally was in Israel with God as their king. God as king over free men who have judges over them.

God said, "They have rejected me as their king by asking for a human king" but God allowed them to have one and put certain limits on the king's authority while warning them of the freedoms they had given away and the consequences of having a human king.

God's requirements of Israel, the burden He laid on them was light – a tithe with no IRS to demand it from them. In contrast He told them that a human king would conscript property, your sons and daughters, animals and another tithe on top of God's tithe. You will become servants of your government rather than the government truly serving you.

God wanted a free, obedient and happy people free of the many burdens government puts on them and He would defend them from all their enemies. Other peoples would look at them thinking, "How can we be free from the burdens our governments put on us" and from that could spread the idea, "Hey, let's worship Israel's God. Let Israel's God be our king." It was God's intent that the whole world be blessed through the descendants of Jacob.

The Gentiles could learn from them what it's like to live under God as their king instead of some power-hungry individual who took lots of their stuff, their youth and sent them forth to fight wars and got them killed on the battlefield and took their property and their crops and confiscated their land and gave it to their cronies. Men has always thought that he could govern himself without God.

Coming down to the present, let's have a bit of a look at the way that modern man, and in particular, the modern day descendants of Jacob, are still trying to make this governmental solution work to try and solve the problems of the world without God as their king.

In the March 15, 1999 New Republic magazine there appeared an excellent article by Charles Krauthammer entitled "A World Imagined" that looked at how the primarily left-wing liberal politicians of our world are trying to bring about a new world order of peace and stability.

He stated that the one world philosophy that pervades the foreign policy decisions of these people is built upon three pillars – internationalism, legalism and humanitarianism.

Internationalism is where international interests have primacy over national interests. It is the legal, moral and strategic primacy of international institutions over national institutions. The interests of the whole world as a community take precedence over our interests as a nation.

Legalism is the belief that the sinews of stability are laws, treaties and international contracts that can domesticate the wild international arena.

Humanitarianism is the belief that the prime world role of the U.S. and the U.N. is to quote Madeline Albright, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, “to terminate the abominable injustices and conditions that still plague civilization”.

The purpose of this one world philosophy is to create an international community that will somehow bring peace to the world and all the world’s problems – to remake the international system in the image of domestic civil society. The reason we are able to have peace and prosperity in a domestic or single nation like the U.S. is because we have a set of laws, contracts and obedience to laws and we have a government that’s able to enforce those laws.

What holds civil society together are a supreme and central authority with sanctity of contracts and the goodwill, civility and decency of individual members but what holds the international arena together, what keeps it from degrading into total anarchy is not a central authority, it is not the phony security of treaties, it is not the vested goodwill amongst nations; what stability we do enjoy is due to the overwhelming power and deterring threat of a superpower like the U.S. that defines international stability as a national interest. In other words, it’s in the U.S.’s national interest that there is international stability.

The new internationalism is about creating a new world order not based on power but based on interdependence through global banking and economics, etc. To achieve this vision of this one world order that is the dream of liberal politicians we have to move from a unipolar to a multipolar, to ultimately a democratized international system where everyone lives under new self-governing institutions and new self-governing international norms and America’s power and independent sovereignty is thus an affront to this new internationalism (This is partly why Clinton’s Democrat administration has cut back the military so much in recent years). The new internationalism is about levelling the playing field and creating an entangling web of interdependence.

In the international arena we live in a state of nature as Krauethammer puts it because God is not at this time the King over the earth.

Over and over again in the Old Testament Israel is warned about her treaties. They were warned against going to Egypt for help. They were warned about showing their national treasure and trying to cut deals with nations about them. God warned them, “You shouldn’t trust these people. These are people that want your land, want your treasure and want your lives.” And yet the Israelites thought they could cut deals with them. It was international entanglements, fooling around with other nations that got Israel into trouble time and time again.

All the well-intentioned efforts at world government are going to fail. The intensity of the incredible stock market surge we have seen for many years cannot be sustained forever without a major adjustment. When that happens there will probably come a time of major economic depression because the economics of the world are built on a faulty foundation.

The left wing internationalism dream will fail and when that happens it will open the door for the right wing system the Bible prophecies speak about that will rule in the end-time known as

the beast. The economic depression from which the beast will arise in great power may be the deadly wound that the beast suffers and dramatically recovers from. The manner in which this great power comes on the scene stuns the whole world. It is a military war-making power. It's a military power that will crush all opposition including the United States.

The roots of this coming international crisis go all the way back to when our forefathers rejected God as their king and asked for a human king and we have tried for hundreds and thousands of years to make it work and ultimately it will backfire on us. In the end we will need God to restore His kingdom and to restore peace and His original government on this earth.