KING & KINGDOM THE MISUSE OF TRUTH. THE ABUSE OF POWER.



- Who is the King? - Where is the kingdom? - What is the kingdom like? - Who are the citizens? - What's the law of the King?

We are Citizens of God's Kingdom.

- How ought His ambassadors live in foreign countries?



Then Pilate went back into his headquarters and called for Jesus to be brought to him. "Are You the king of the Jews?" he asked Him. Jesus replied, "Is this your own question, or did others tell you about Me?" "Am I a Jew?" Pilate retorted. "Your own people and their leading priests brought You to me for trial. Why? What have You done?"

John 18:33-38



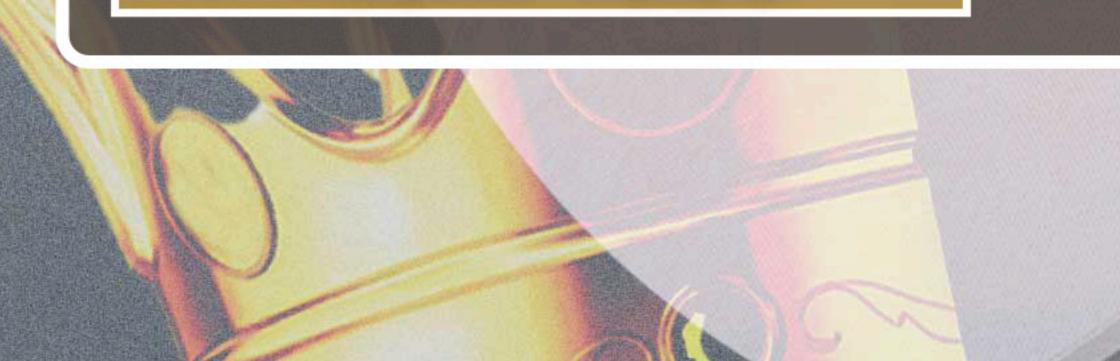
John 18:33-38 Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, My followers would fight to keep Me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But My Kingdom is not of this world." Pilate said, "So You are a king?" Jesus responded, "You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true." "What is truth?" Pilate asked.





The Abuse of Power - John 18:36

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"My Kingdom is not of this World." - John 18:36

The Misuse of Truth - John 18:37-38



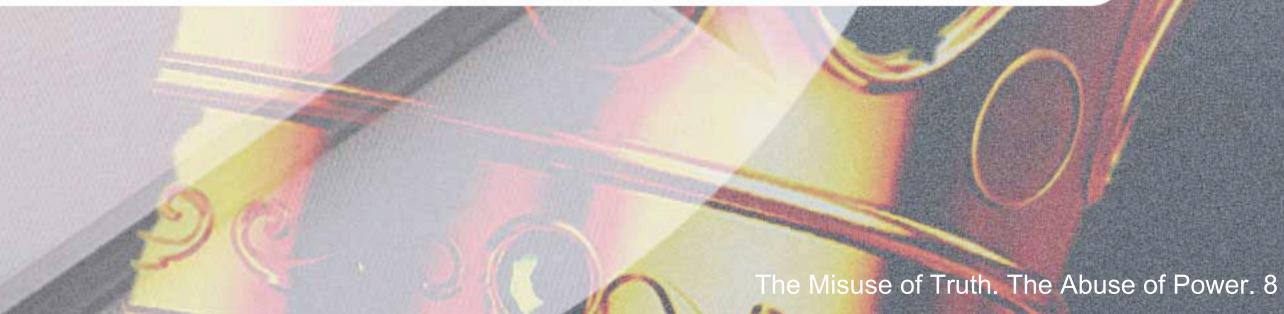
The Abuse of PowerEarthly kingdoms use powerfor the sake of self-preservation.John 18:36 – Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is notan earthly kingdom. If it were, My followers would fightto keep Me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders.But My Kingdom is not of this world."



John 18:10-11 Then Simon Peter drew a sword and slashed off the right ear of Malchus, the high priest's slave. But Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Shall I not drink from the cup of suffering the Father has given Me?"



The Misuse of Truth Earthly kingdoms twist truth for the sake of self-preservation. John 18:37-38 – Pilate said, "So You are a king?" Jesus responded, "You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true." "What is truth?" Pilate asked.





John 19:12-16

Then Pilate tried to release Him, but the Jewish leaders shouted, "If you release this man, you are no 'friend of Caesar.' Anyone who declares himself a king is a rebel against Caesar." When they said this, Pilate brought Jesus out to them again. Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform that is called the Stone Pavement (in Hebrew, Gabbatha).





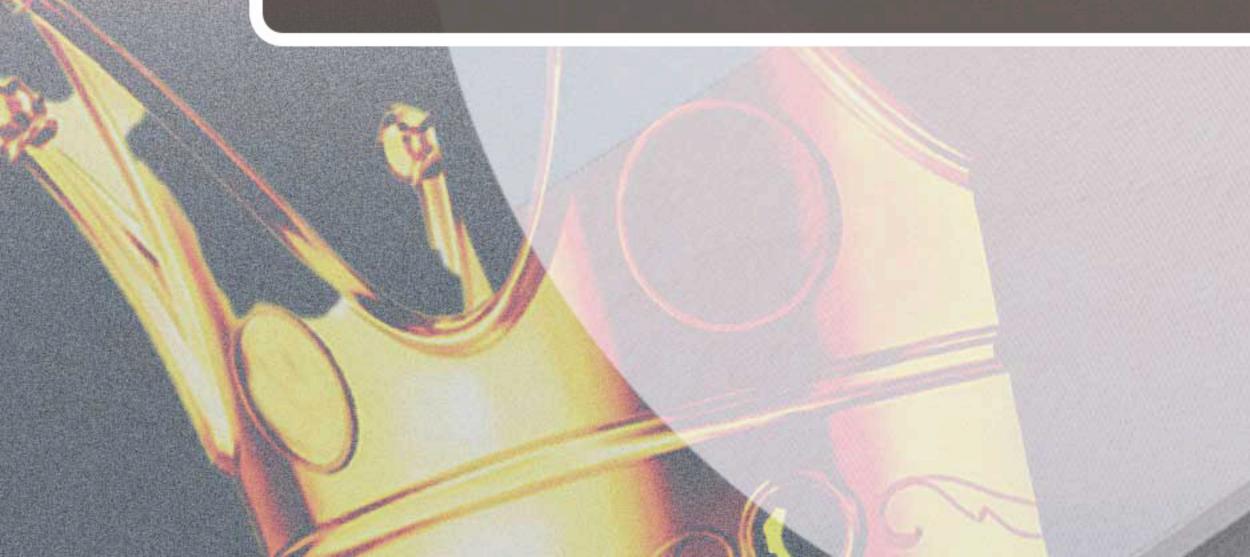
It was now about noon on the day of preparation for the Passover. And Pilate said to the people, "Look, here is your king!" "Away with Him," they yelled. "Away with Him! Crucify Him!" "What? Crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the leading priests shouted back. Then Pilate turned Jesus over to them to be crucified.

John 19:12-16





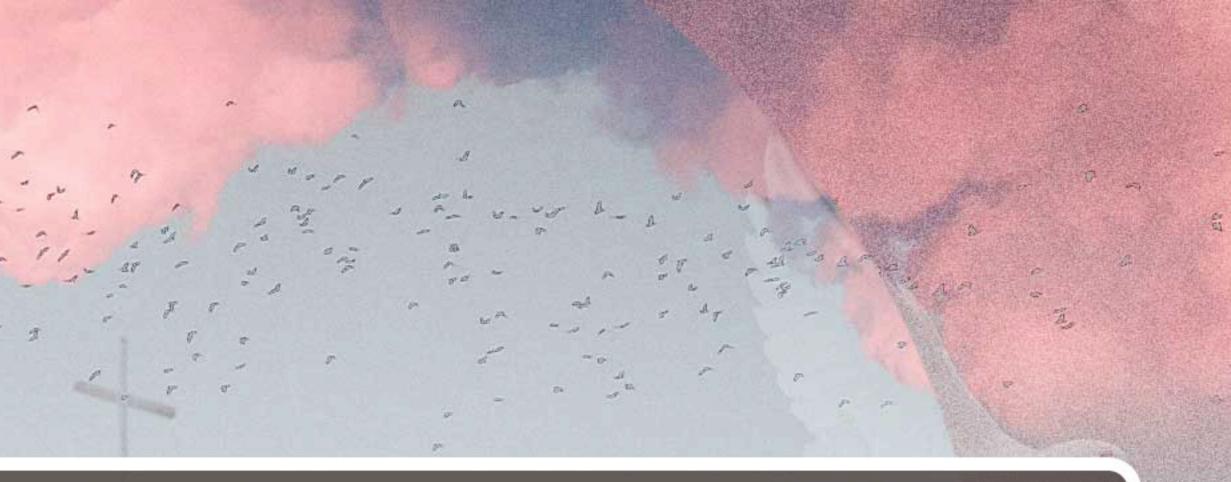
As we reside in earthly kingdoms that abuse power and misuse truth, how do we live for Jesus?





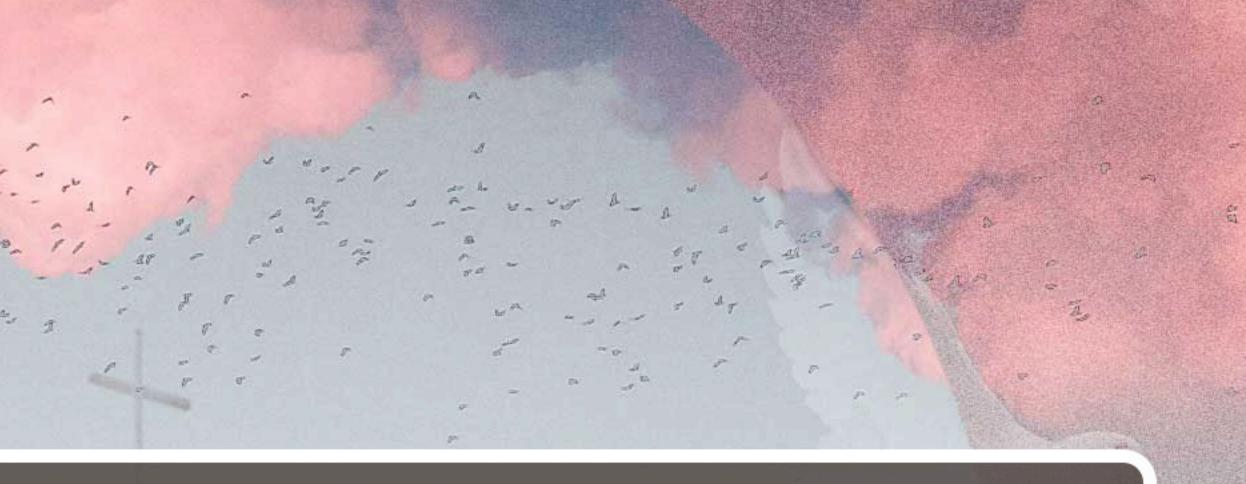
The Abuse of Truth In our country today, the real war is waged with the weapon of rhetoric. It's a war of words.





"They are fake news!" - Trump Campaign "He's a chronic liar!" - Biden Campaign "I came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true." - King Jesus.





Most Christians are allowing themselves to be primarily discipled by the well-funded, pervasive, strategic, and deceptive rhetorical strategies of political campaigns and mass media.



Rise Above the Rhetoric and Reframe the Issues. 1. Consume less mass media.





"Citizens who rely on mass media for political information are beholden to someone else's agenda and priorities. Christians are no exception. Christians must think outside cultural frameworks and outflank current political considerations..."





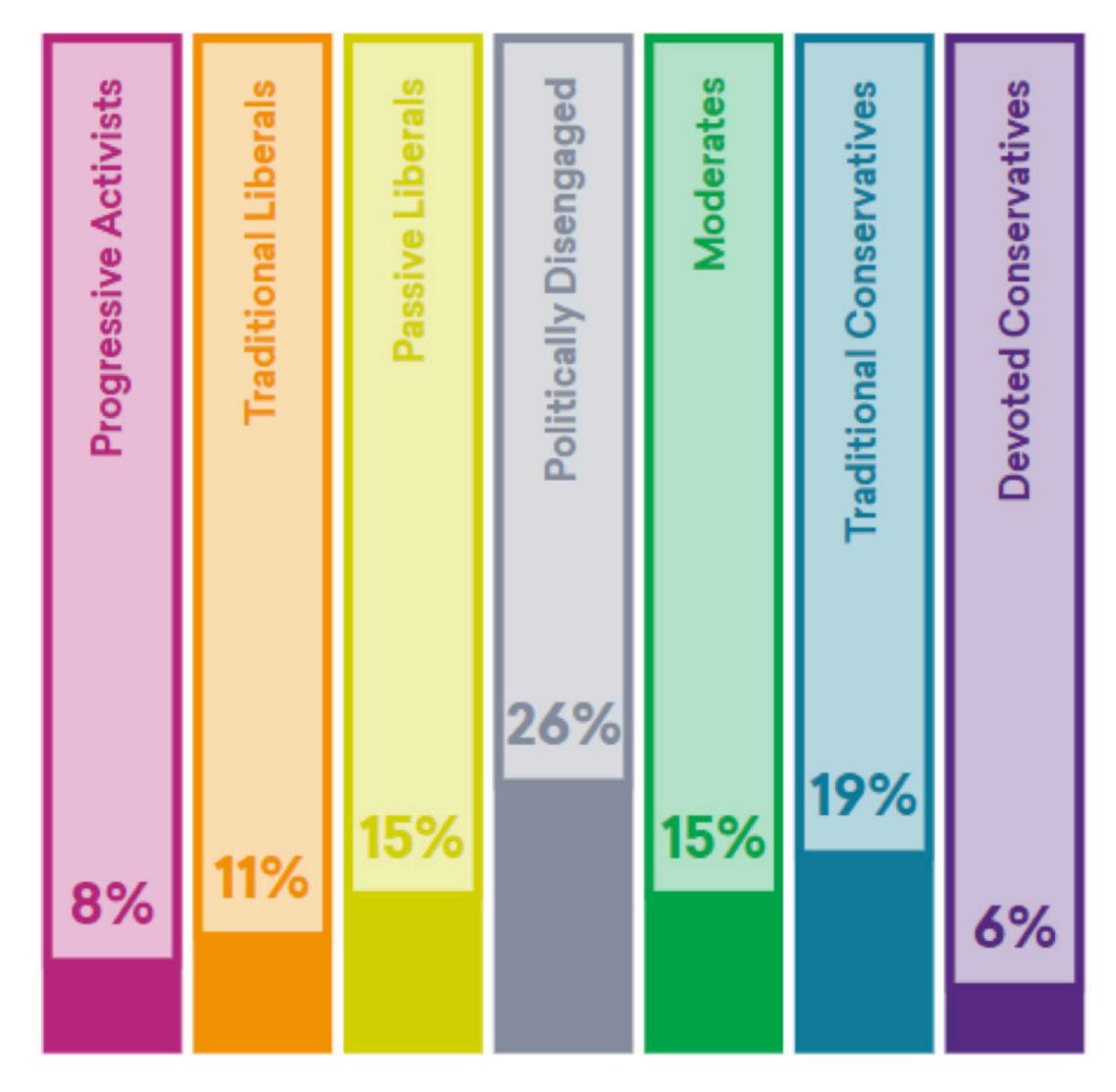
"...Mass media have co-opted our imaginations such that we can't even imagine issues and solutions outside the way the discussion is already framed. Christians must maneuver around the established boundaries of political discourse and engage important issues defined by Scripture." - The Gospel Coalition



Rise Above the Rhetoric and Reframe the Issues. 1. Consume less mass media. 2. Consume less social media.



The Hidden Tribes of America



The state



Rise Above the Rhetoric and Reframe the Issues. 1. Consume less mass media. 2. Consume less social media. 3. Dig out the nuance beneath the rhetoric.





"Pro Life" vs. "War on Women"





"End Racism!" vs. "Law and Order!"





"Mask-up!" vs. "Open back up!"



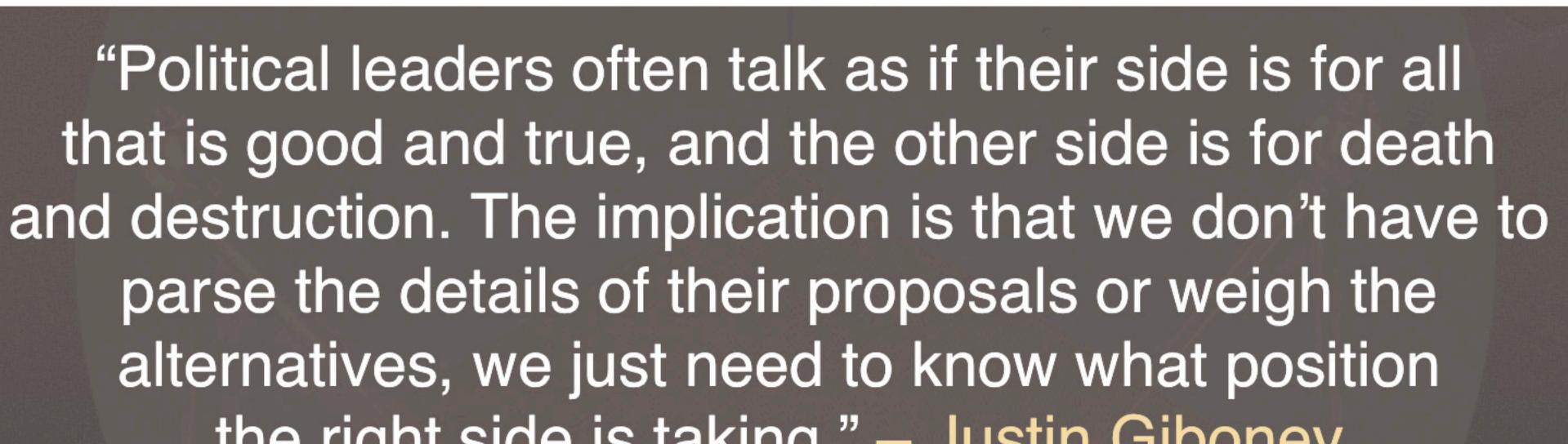


Political Footballs Abortion Race Immigration COVID-19 Political Footballs Stimulus Healthcare Amy Coney Barrett





the right side is taking." – Justin Giboney





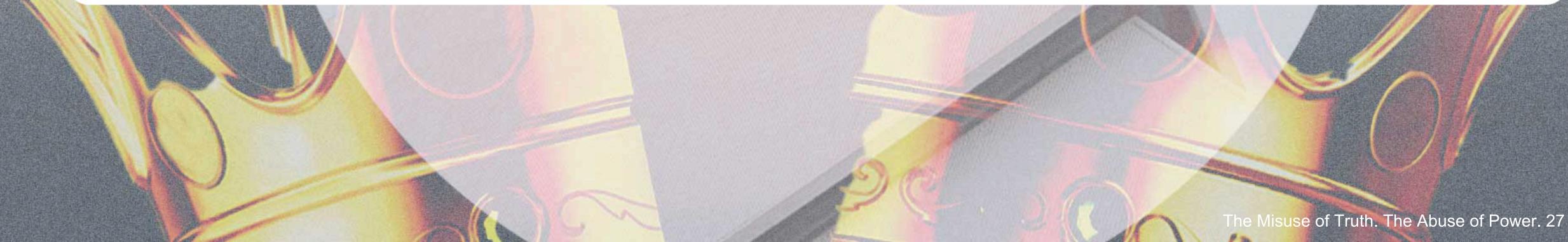
1. Consume less mass media. 2. Consume less social media. across the spectrum.

Rise Above the Rhetoric and Reframe the Issues. 3. Dig out the nuance beneath the rhetoric. 4. Listen to thoughtful Christian commentary





Left: Cornel West Jemar Tisby William Barber Eddie Glaude Sarah Bessy Shane Claiborne Center Left: Michael Wear Justin Giboney Tish Harrison Warren Kristin Kobes Du Mez Latasha Morrison John Fea



Center Right: Michael Gerson Russell Moore Karen Swallow Prior Trilla Newbell Kathryn Freeman Alan Noble Peter Wehner David Frum Right: Robert George David French Cal Thomas Alexandra Desanctis Anne Graham Lotz Wayne Grudem



The Abuse of Truth

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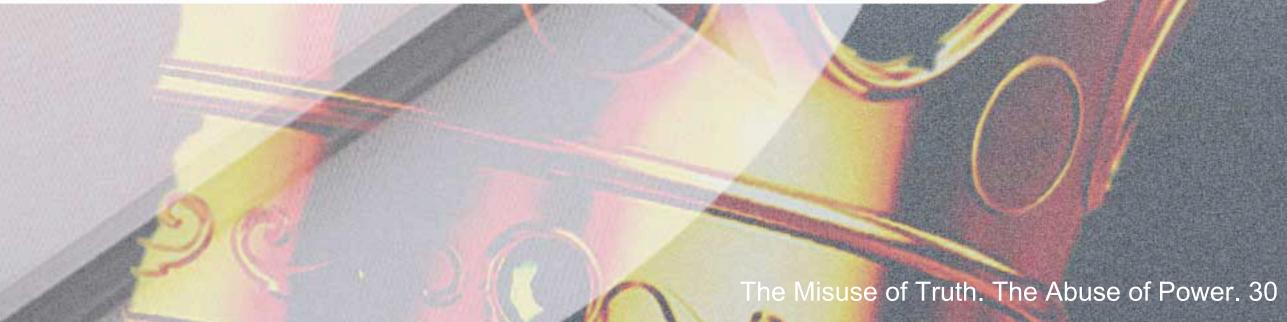


John 13:1-15 Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that His hour had come to leave this world and return to His Father... Jesus knew that the Father had given Him authority over everything and that He had come from God and would return to God. So He got up from the table, took off His robe, wrapped a towel around His waist, and poured water into a basin. Then He began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel He had around Him...



John 13:1-15

After washing their feet, He put on His robe again and sat down and asked, "Do you understand what I was doing? You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am. And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you."

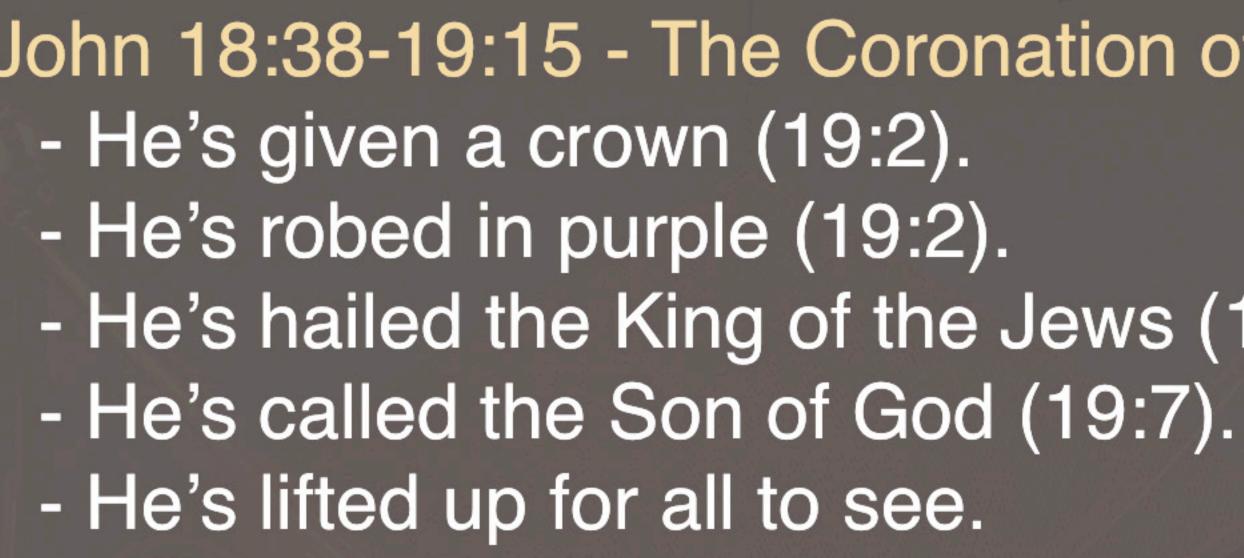






Jesus believes power should be sacrificed for the sake of others.







John 18:38-19:15 - The Coronation of Jesus - He's hailed the King of the Jews (19:3).



Jesus' and Pilate's Last Words John 19:11 - Then Jesus said, "You would have no power over Me at all unless it were given to you from above."



John 19:19-20 Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.



Philippians 2:6-11 Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.



Philippians 2:6-11 Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

