

SUBMITTING TO THE KING

John 6:15-66

By Raymond White

Clearly, it is Christ's destiny to be king.

Genesis 49:10 *Until Shiloh come.* (Shiloh means "whose right it is to rule").

Isaiah 9:6 *The mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*

Daniel 9:25 *Messiah the Prince*

Matthew 2:2 *...born King of the Jews.*

Matthew 21:5 *Behold, thy king cometh unto thee.*

John 18:37 *Art thou a king? To this end was I born.*

1 Timothy 6:16 *The only Potentate, the King of kings.*

But maybe the bible doesn't mean king in any real earthly sense because Jesus said —

John 18:36 *My kingdom is not of this world.*

But that's only temporary because the bible also says this —

Revelation 11:15 *The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever.*

So eventually, at some unknown future time, Jesus will be the monarch of the world. Here's a question: Why did Jesus decline to be king when the job was offered to him?

John 6:15 *When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him king, he departed.*

Why didn't he jump at the chance? Why did he "depart"? Here's why.

John 6:26 *Ye seek me...because ye did eat. :51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh. :66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him*

That was a modern thinking crowd. As long as Jesus was handing out free stuff, hey, make him king. He's got our vote. Like today, we vote for whoever promises the most goodies.

They knew what entitlements were. But when he asked *them* to do something — "eat my flesh, drink my blood"; in other words, accept me on my terms, be what I am, commit yourselves to my life and my death — well, they didn't want to have anything to do with that. So, they left.

Total commitment, which Jesus was demanding of them, was, in their opinion, too much for a king to ask. "Feed us" and we're on-board. But "commit to you," ah, no thanks. That's why Jesus could not be their king. They didn't want a king, they wanted free stuff, entitlements.

Is Jesus your king? That means more than accepting his gifts, it means coming on your knees in submission to his sovereign will.