

# The Voice *of The People*

*Standing For & Doing What Is Right Even If It Is Unpopular*





# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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- ◆ Being in the majority does not make one right - (Gen 6:12; Exo. 23:2; Mat 7:13,14; 1 John 5:19)
- ◆ When we take a stand for truth, we will often find ourselves in the ridiculed minority - (1 Pet 4:3)
- ◆ The majority can be manipulated by a vocal minority to do what is wrong! - (1 Cor. 5:6)



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*“The voice of the people has been said to be the voice of God; and however generally this maxim has been quoted and believed, it is not true to fact. The people are turbulent and changing, they seldom judge or determine right.”*



*Alexander Hamilton*

# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Standing For & Doing What Is Right Even If It Is Unpopular*

**WRONG**  
is **WRONG**,  
even if *everyone*  
is doing it.

**RIGHT**  
is **RIGHT**,  
even if *no one*  
is doing it.

- ✦ God's ways & man's ways often conflict- (Isaiah 55:8,9; 1 Cor 1:25).
- ✦ Not in man to direct our own steps- (Jer 10:23; cf. Psalm 25:4-5; Mat. 7:13,14).
- ✦ The way which seems right to a man may lead to death (Prov 16:25, cf. 12:15; Exo. 23:2).
- ✦ Christ is the head of the church, not people, —(Mat 28:18; Eph 1:22-23; 1 Tim 6:15).



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us God's That Shall Go Before Us*



## Exodus 32:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for *as for* this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us God's That Shall Go Before Us*



- ◆ Worshipping & serving the creature rather than the Creator  
- Rom 1:21-32
- ✳ The root of the gross immorality that exist in our culture.
- ✳ We live in a culture given over to entertainment & recreation!
- ✳ We are to flee idolatry and put God first - 1 Cor 10:14; Mark 12:29-31; Mat 4:10



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us God's That Shall Go Before Us*



- ◆ Many professed Christians still demand their molded 'gods'
  - ✳ Relics & images – (1 Thes. 1:9)
  - ✳ Denominationalism – (1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 4:4-6)
  - ✳ Mechanical instruments in worship & the demand for entertainment – (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16,17)
  - ✳ Recreation to draw people – carnal, social & secular emphasis - (Rom. 1:16; 14:17; 1 Cor. 11:22,34)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us God's That Shall Go Before Us*



- ◆ Many professed Christians still demand their molded 'gods'
  - ✳ Demanding permissive doctrines – (2 Tim. 4:3,4)
    - ▶ Faith only - James 2:24
    - ▶ Sincerity is all that matters - Mat 7:21-23; 15:7-9; 2 John 9; Prov 14:12
    - ▶ Once saved always saved - 2 Peter 2:20-22; Gal 5:1-4; 1 Cor. 10:1-13
    - ▶ MDR - Mat 5:32; 19:9; 1 Cor 7



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us A King Like All The Nations*



**1 Samuel 8:4-5 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah,  
<sup>5</sup> and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us A King Like All The Nations*



- ◆ People today still demand to be organized their own way . . .
- ✦ Prophets in Mormonism –
- ✦ Watchtower Society –
- ✦ Pope – Cardinals – Catholic Bishops & priest –
- ✦ Synods – Councils – Committees –
- ✦ The ‘Pastoral’ system – (Jer. 5:31)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Make Us A King Like All The Nations*



- ◆ People today still demand to be organized their own way . . .
  - \* Many desire to be like the denominations around us . . . *Missionary Society; Sponsoring churches; Institutions; Brotherhood joint actions, etc.* - (1 Pet 5:2)
  - \* The Lord has organized the local church the way He wants it!! We need to leave it alone!! – (Phili 1:1; Acts 20:29; Ep. 4:11,12; 5:23; Tit 1:5-10)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Because I Feared The People & Obeyed Them*



**1 Samuel 15:24 (NKJV)**

<sup>24</sup> Then Saul said to Samuel,  
"I have sinned, for I have  
transgressed the  
commandment of the LORD  
and your words, because I  
feared the people and  
obeyed their voice.



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Because I Feared The People & Obeyed Them*



- ◆ Worship & Service to God is NOT about what we want . . .
- ✳ Worship isn't worship – MUST be in spirit & truth – (John 4:24; Col. 3:17; Rom. 6:16-18; Heb. 5:8)
- ✳ God does NOT respect sacrifice in place of obedience – (Isa. 1:11-17; Jer. 7:2,23; Mat 23:23)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*Because I Feared The People & Obeyed Them*



- ◆ Worship & Service to God is NOT about what we want . . .
- ✳ To disobey God is to dishonor God!!
- ✳ To offer worship that God has NOT commanded is vain worship and an act of disobedience!! – (Lev 10:1,2; Mal. 1:6; Mat. 15:7-9)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*We Are Not Able . . . They Are Stronger*



**Numbers 13:31**  
**(NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we."



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*We Are Not Able . . . They Are Stronger*



- ◆ The “Naysayers” who do not trust God will always be around to discourage . . .
- ✳ We can’t know if God is real . . .
- ✳ We can’t know the truth . . .
- ✳ We can’t overcome sin . . .
- ✳ We can’t win souls with the gospel alone . . .
- ✳ We can’t make a difference . . .



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*We Are Not Able . . . They Are Stronger*



- ◆ The “Naysayers” who do not trust God will always be around to discourage . . .
- ✳ Many would be happy to stay where they are - they do not want to be moved forward, they do not want to be challenged - 2 Pet 1:5-10; Phili 3:12-16; 4:8-13
- ✳ Sometimes doing what’s right is really hard - Acts 14:22; Heb 12:4



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*They Cried Out All the More, "Crucify Him!"*



## **Mark 15:12-14 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do *with Him* whom you call the King of the Jews?"

<sup>13</sup> So they cried out again,  
"Crucify Him!"

<sup>14</sup> Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more,  
"Crucify Him!"



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*They Cried Out All the More, "Crucify Him!"*



- ◆ Jesus was rejected because He spoke the truth . . .  
People still reject Him . . .
- ✳ Speaking the truth against sin & sinners can result in persecution, even when spoken from a merciful & forgiving heart! (2 Tim 3:12)
- ✳ The people were stirred up by the ungodly, zealous religious leaders. (Mat 27:20)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*They Cried Out All the More, "Crucify Him!"*



- ◆ Jesus was rejected because He spoke the truth . . .  
People still reject Him . . .
- ✳ Sound preaching has never been popular with sinners who want to continue in their sin!! (Jer 5:31; Mat. 11:7-20)
- ✳ Anyone who exposes error is at risk of being labeled a trouble maker & judging others– (1 Ki 18:18; Mat 7:1)



# THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

*They Cried Out All the More, "Crucify Him!"*



◆ Jesus was rejected because  
He spoke the truth . . .  
People still reject Him . . .

- ✳ We cannot yield to the  
ungodly & compromise the  
truth – (2 Tim 4:2-5)
- ✳ What kind of preaching do  
we want? Noah? Jeremiah?  
John the baptist? Jesus?  
Stephen? Paul? (Acts 17:11,12)



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- ✦ Are we committed to putting away the idols from our heart?
- ✦ Are we humble enough to accept God's rule in our life?
- ✦ Are we determined to do what is right even when pressured to do what's wrong?
- ✦ Do we trust God no matter the obstacle in our way?
- ✦ Are we willing to stand for the truth even if it cost us our life?



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**Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)**

- <sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.*
- <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.









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# 1 Samuel 8:1-20 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel. <sup>2</sup> The name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; *they were* judges in Beersheba. <sup>3</sup> But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice. <sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, <sup>5</sup> and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."





# 1 Samuel 8:1-20 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them. <sup>8</sup> According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even to this day--with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods--so they are doing to you also.





# 1 Samuel 8:1-20 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them." . .

.<sup>19</sup> Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, <sup>20</sup> that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

