The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for John 18:36-37 (https://www.theberean.org)



## **Daily Verse and Comment**

## John 18:36-37

(36) Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." (37) Pilate therefore said to Him, 'Are You a king then?' Jesus answered, 'You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.'

New King James Version

Pilate was concerned that <u>Jesus</u> was interfering in the politics of his day, but Jesus told him that, even though He was born to be King, His Kingdom was not of *this* world. Christ will establish His rule on earth as King of <u>the world</u> at the appointed time He returns.

While Jesus did preach to the world by warning it (Matthew 4:25; 5:1), He remained separate from its politics. His primary audience was His disciples, whom He taught God's way of life. He called them out of this present, evil age—out of its customs, philosophies, and ways—to a life of separation from the world (II Corinthians 6:17). He told them, "Follow Me."

He did not mean for Christians to leave the world physically. He knew they must live in it, but He taught that they should not be *of* it. In His final prayer, He requests, "I do not pray that you should take [My disciples] out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (John 17:15-16). Thus, Christ's disciples live in this present world as if they were foreigners, guests of the nations where they reside, as <u>ambassadors for Christ</u> and His coming Kingdom.

When <u>God</u> calls a person to <u>repentance</u> and conversion, He summons them to forsake former allegiances and transfer all loyalty to Christ. As Paul writes

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in <u>II Corinthians 5:17</u>, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

**Would Jesus Christ Vote? (Part Two)** 

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