

THE THRONE ABOVE ALL THRONES

One third of the month of January 2009 has already passed into oblivion. Years come and go and these days I am always reminded of one phrase Rick Warren's often uses in his book *Purpose Driven Life*, is "living in the light of eternity." This phrase has always helped me to perceive my life, time and again in the canvass of eternity. Not only for me, but I believe and wish, that every disciple of Jesus stop, pause and check their lives in the light of eternity. Then life becomes worth living right here on earth itself.

I was reading 2 Chronicles 18 recently and started meditating on all the events of the chapter. Please read that chapter. It was the time when 10 tribes of Israel separated from Judah and the two kingdoms had two kings. Ahab was the king of Samaria (Israel) and Jehoshaphat was the king of Judah. Ahab went so much against the Lord whereas the heart of Jehoshaphat was right before the Lord. It was an unequal yoking. They both fellowshipped and decided to go on a war against a troublesome neighbour. Jehoshaphat wanted to know the will of God and 400 prophets were summoned and all prophesied victory. Jehoshaphat was not convinced about the prophesies and wanted more proof. Ahab knew about a prophet who did not have pleasing words.

I think this is an excellent definition of a prophet. See what Ahab says, "There is still one man by whom we may inquire of the Lord but I hate him, because he never prophesies good concerning me, but always evil. He is Micaiah, the son of Imla."v.7.

What a testimony about a prophet. Even this day true prophets are not popular. They do not bless the popular wave. When all the so called prophets prophesy blessing and victory, there is this one lone man willing to speak what God would tell him. And he speaks with such clarity.

He says, I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains as sheep that have no shepherd. And the Lord said, 'Let each return to his house in peace. The real prophet sees more than what others could see. This statement was later used by Jesus Himself when He said that He saw people scattered like sheep without a shepherd and His heart was so moved with compassion. The Lord revealed not only that they will be defeated but also reveals more about the eternal Kingdom.

We can read in verse 9 that the king of Israel and Judah clothed in their royal robes and sat each on his throne. The kings are so proudly seated on their earthly thrones and the 400 prophets are prophesying what the kings want to hear. That was such a pathetic situation when prophesy is tailored to suit the worldly authority.

It was Micaiah the true seer of God sees things from the view of eternity. His view was from the Throne of eternity and not from the perspective of the throne of Ahab and Jehoshaphat. Not only he saw Israel scattered , he also saw the eternal Throne established in eternity.

I saw the Lord sitting on His throne and all the host of heaven standing on His right hand and His left.

Before his carnal eyes he sees two kings seated so proudly on their thrones and the Lord opens his prophet's eyes to the Eternal throne and the Sovereign authority.

This should be a very important question of our lives. Who is seated on the throne of my life? What rules my life? Is it the king of the world, the material prosperity, the power and the glory that comes from fighting my own battles or is the Lord of Lords and King of Kings is enthroned in my life?

Let us search our hearts this year and ask very honestly what rules my life and Who is seated on my throne. In less than a week the two kings clothed in royal robes and seated proudly on the throne suffered a humiliating defeat. One ran away and one died. But the Throne of the Lord cannot be shaken. Daniel said this to the great king Nebuchadnezzar,

The God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed and the kingdom shall not be left to

other people ; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand forever." Daniel 2, 44.

And I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow and the hair of His head was pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire. Daniel 7,9.

There is an eternal throne and we can ask the Lord to take up the throne of our lives. These days we have literally seen so many thrones crumble. People who were so sure of their finances are not sure anymore. The thrones are shaking. But we are secure when our hope is deposited on the throne of eternity.

Establish the throne of God firmly in your hearts and lives this year. Turn to the pure word of God. Jesus never prophesied that material wealth is the only end and blessing of Christian life. Jesus has called us to carry our cross and walk after Him. The way of the pilgrim is not going to be an easy one. But the Cross will lead us surely to the Throne. This day I heard such heart rending stories of faith from Christian leaders from Kandhamal, Orissa. One worship leader said all his property worth more than 60 lakhs were completely destroyed and he is still a hunted man. But he was so joyful and was dancing and praising the Lord. But believe me when I tell you this, I doubt whether I will ever see a richer person than him. Practically penniless but he has a faith that is more

precious than gold and that has literally been tested by fire. I was so humbled and speechless when I met such brave-hearts of faith in flesh and blood. Our God alone is worthy

of such sacrifice. Such letting go. This God who allowed Himself to be perfected through suffering, He alone is worthy of such sacrifices! What a great God we serve. What a worthy God we serve. And this Throne will endure forever and ever.

Lord help us to enthrone you in our life. Lord let not the material desires of this earth rule over us Lord. Teach us to take up my Cross and follow you faithfully no matter what the cost. Lord teach me that blessing does not lie in money, education, job or position but in knowing you more and more. Teach me to enthrone you Lord of Lords and king of Kings in my life. In Jesus name. Amen.