



“*Kingly Downfalls*”

Royal High-ness
Deuteronomy 17:14-20

Troubles due to:

I. Popularity– “like all the nations that are about me” (vs. 14-15)

A mandate through:

- A. Commissioning** – “*I will set a king over me*”
- B. Calling** – “*Whom the Lord your God shall choose*”
- C. Citizenship** - “*You may not set a stranger over you*”

II. Possessions – “cause the people to return to Egypt” (vs. 16-17)

A multiplication of:

- A. Weapons** - “*multiply horses to himself*”
- B. Wives** – “*multiply wives to himself*”
- C. Wealth** – “*greatly multiply to himself silver and gold*”

III. Pride – “That his heart be not lifted up” (vs. 18-20)

A maturation through:

- A. Scribing** – “*he shall write him a copy of this law in a book*”
- B. Speaking** – “*he shall read therein all the days of his life*”
- C. Submission** – “*keep all the words of this law and... to do them*”

Sentence Sermon

*Leaders have power, but power is safe only in the hands
of those who humble themselves to serve.*

John Stott

Additional Verses

- *Exodus 15:1-6*
- *I Kings 11:1-6*
- *Proverbs 30:8-9*
- *II Samuel 23:3*
- *I Kings 10:14-15, 23, 26-28*
- *I Samuel 8:4-5*
- *II Kings 23:11*
- *Exodus 14:23-28*

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. Why didn't Israel have a king already? Why in the promised land?
4. How would the Israelites know who God would choose for a king?
5. Why was it important that they choose a Jew to be their king?
6. What qualities would you consider most important for a leader?
7. How would you explain the restriction of the number of horses for the king?
8. What does writing and reading God's Word have to do with obeying it?
9. What are the effects based on whether or not you write/read God's word?
10. How are God's guidelines for choosing a king different than other cultures?
11. Are these standards only important to kings or are they applicable to us?