THE VOTE

I see no good in having several lords; Let one alone be master, let one alone be King.—Homer, Iliad, Book 2

Thus begins Etienne De La Boetie with this quotation in his masterful, short work, on *The Discourse of Voluntary Servitude*. I've taken the liberty of capitalizing "King" in the above quote, which La Boetie utilized in a slightly different sense to illustrate the premise of his book—namely, that free men should have *no master at all*. We, of course, would say we have no need of a monarch or a president, for we already *have* a King, one Jesus (Acts 17:7; John 18:37).

Christians are very conflicted about this, however, and much division is caused over the subject of "voting"—by that I mean participating in the "electoral process" of choosing our next ruler(s). A study of this debate would be long and tedious, but if we can briefly focus on the history of the modern State and compare it with Scripture, we may find it profitable. Especially now.

Therefore, I think <u>this little book</u> (it's only a few dozen pages) is well worth anyone's time to pick up and read in order to get some historical context of this thing we call "representative government". Because we've all been greatly misled at some point or another in our lives as to what, exactly, this so-called agreement is between the rulers and the ruled.

Written at the beginning of what we call Western Civilization when the nation-states of Europe were in their nascence, and kings had begun to rule distinct peoples within borders paying explicit allegiance to them, La Boetie accurately described the nature of the State apparatus itself. In this most famous work (aka, *The Politics of Obedience*), he sought to understand the perennial question of how tyranny begins and is held over a people, and why it is that people *consent to their own enslavement*. For in the beginning of despotic rule, men will "submit under constraint and by force; but those who come after them obey without regret and perform willingly what their predecessors had done because they had to." ...Concluding finally that people reared in slavery are most often content with their circumstances, being unaware of any other condition of liberty, and ultimately submit by *"the powerful influence of custom...namely, habituation to subjection"*. A remarkable observation indeed.

Thus have we arrived at 21st century America (and indeed the entire West). The CUSTOM of our fathers being well established in our nation now for centuries, and the legitimizing propaganda of the "powers that be" now permanently affixed in our collective minds like a calcified tumor, we have come to believe that our servitude is the permanent and natural condition of man... Agreeing, as it were, with Humpty Dumpty, who said, *"The question is, which is to be master—that's all."*

But, unlike all of Europe, it was accomplished rather bloodlessly and with little force here. Rather, it was with a sleight of hand, and out of a delinquent ignorance of the people (mostly willful) who were subverted through well-honed mechanisms of human psychology—most notably a sense of "fair play", which is peculiar to the Western mind. The so-called "social contract" is an imaginary tool of the Ruling Class who wield it skillfully to exploit this innate inclination of our people. We are told we live in a "democracy" (or even the slightly more accurate, "Democratic Republic"), which is false, but irrelevant, and that whether or not you take the ticket, others will, so you'd best have your voice heard. But it's a dupe.

The "Vote" is actually the formal initiation rite into the covenant with the State, which we are told from childhood is our "civic duty" to perform. Participation in the "elections" is that devious and quiet method of subjugation because it causes people to give their tacit consent to be governed by the State. Rather than resisting their rulers or living in forced obedience, they *cooperate* with them in placing themselves under subjection—as the scheme of "voting" means those who play the game accept the outcome. Fair is fair. Regardless of who wins, all voters consent to be governed by the mystical "majority rule".

That the churchmen have been complicit in this fraud is an understatement. Without the direct assistance of the *thousands* of idol shepherds in the land and the remainder of the misguided if well-intentioned others in churchianity, the State could never have succeeded in pulling off such a swindle. Nominal Christians have been told for generations since at least the fall of Rome that obedience to authority is godliness. And because this is a partial truth, it has been terribly hard to un-deceive ourselves. Likewise, with both the political actors of State and the ruling churchmen (from the Pope on down) having <u>gained magnificently</u> from this scheme, there is no incentive for reform. The status quo must be maintained at all costs, thus the religious and secular indoctrination of the masses on their 'duty to vote' will continue unabated.

Politics is where the money is. Rulership over people has always been lucrative as well as highly appealing to the basest nature of humanity—*those who desire control over others*. And while it's true that the most debauched of them truly only desire power for power's sake, they need money to accomplish this. Thus their wealth is often just the means to an end. The super-rich who have hoovered up the vast bulk of the world's resources and wealth have done so to create a Universal Plantation in which the rest of us will serve them like farm animals, forever. Thereafter, every aspect and detail of our meaningless little lives will be monitored and micro-managed for their sheer pleasure and amusement. The Grid that has been under construction since the first days of the Industrial Revolution was for this ultimate purpose—to build their fabled global ant-farm. Behold the coming technocracy.

Why has Yahweh allowed this? Because we asked for it...

I'd like to make an interesting observation. It is a peculiar thing that whereas in all of history whenever mankind has been subjugated, as La Boitie points out, initially it occurred through force or fraud. Beginning with Nimrod who built Babylon—the "mighty hunter before the Lord", to the pharaohs of Egypt, to Alexander the Great, to the Caesars of Rome—the list goes on and on—men and nations have been subjugated by the stronger and the smarter. Wherever a people have come under the power of another who took their liberty and enslaved them in body and spirit, it was, at the first, *done without their consent*...and then, once fully submitted, they continue in voluntary servitude through habit and custom (as we do today).

Except once.

One time in history, it is recorded that a people *willingly* gave up their self-autonomy—that is their selfgovernance, their liberty, their freedom under God... It is a remarkable fact that it was the most freest of all people, the most blessed nation on earth, the most protected, the most revered by other nations that nation which the God of Creation *Himself* had formed, nurtured, and personally, physically, and literally ruled—that ASKED to be enslaved. Recall, if you will, that it was ISRAEL, a unified people, stateless and free, which said: "*Give us a king that we may be like the other nations*".

In this inglorious act, God's "own peculiar people" did the unthinkable. They rejected Him, the most perfect, and just and loving Sovereign with whom they were COREGENTS over their own society, and ultimately, over all of creation—of which they were to take full dominion. They were a people united with the King of kings, the Almighty God and Ruler over the heavens and the earth—they were His Queen. Israel *literally means* "ruling with God"... And came a time when through stubbornness or envy, or just plain wicked rebellion, they went to the prophet Samuel:

"Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord. And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, **but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.**"

And when Yahweh told them all "the manner of the king that shall reign over them", and how they would be abused and exploited, and robbed and enslaved, then finally told them,

"And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day."

Incredibly, they responded,

"**Nay**; but we will have a king over us; 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." (1Samuel 8)

The sordid history of that nation and her kings is recounted for us in the remaining books of the Old Testament. The consequences of that decision followed them for over a thousand years until, finally, their promised Redeemer arrived. Israel's once and future King came to the remnant of Judah as the anointed Messiah to make a new covenant with the whole House of Israel at the appointed time, in Palestine, then a province of Rome. Telling them that the long prophesied Kingdom of Heaven was now at hand, they refused His kingship and His kingdom once again. When it came time to choose a king over them, these men of Israel again revolted, saying in unison, "We will not have this man to reign over us!" (Luke 19:14). And with a last, twisted irony, given the discrete opportunity to participate in their own "<u>electoral process</u>" before the court of Pilate—they chose a robber, Barabbas, and sent their Christ to his death.

Having once again rejected Him, God's own people declared in a final act of desecration that "We have no king but Caesar!" and even tried to deny their Christ *his title* fastened on the cross above his head: "This is the King of the Jews"—for although placed there to disparage him, they further attempted to increase the mockery and cement their rejection by demanding it to say instead: "He *said* he was King of the Jews". But Pilate refused to change it.

The many centuries that have since passed have likewise not altered that question which yet remains for all of us today... Is Jesus King or is he not?

The American State and the people living under it have merely continued this tradition of voluntary servitude under another king. While Christians continue to go into the voting temples every two years to pull the lever for their new favorite gods, they are rejecting the God they claim to follow. Like Israel of Samuel's day, they want "a king to rule over them like all the other nations"...any king, just not Jesus. His kingdom is not yet for them. For His is a future kingdom, and it seems they are like the spirits which possessed those two fierce men among the tombs which Jesus cast out, crying, "What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?" Believers today seem to think likewise that the Kingdom of God is for tormenting their backward brethren, and the time is not now for judgment—at least not their own. Instead they choose their own herd of political swine to cohabit rather than submit to the only true King.

How serious is this? As serious as breaking the First Commandment.

Our rulers (or those who pretend to be) sweep into office with reams of new rules, laws, and ordinances, not ONE of which comports with God's Law, which they force people into obedience by the lie that we've consented to them by virtue of our casting a vote. And for those who did not vote, you ostensibly agreed anyway by being born inside the borders of the land over which they purport to rule. That's their fraudulent Social Contract in a nutshell.

But whose laws you obey is your sovereign... That is an unavoidable fact. Whether by force or fraud, if we have given any allegiance or legitimacy to the dictates of a king, or a governor or a city counsel who are not under the direct authority of Christ (and no one inside the State apparatus is), then we have made them into a false god and have placed them before Yahweh. In a very real sense, our vote for them is an act of betrayal. And the rest of us non-players are complicit by our degree of compliance to their doctrine.

But the racket rides on.

"A vote not cast is a vote for the other guy", the priests of State tell us... "If we don't participate then we can't complain about the results"... And other such nonsense and lies. In fact, **our voluntary**

servitude will only end when we stop volunteering. The once godly foundations of our nation have been dug down and the much vaunted "Republic" now teeters on the miry sand of those fallacies the "Framers" built on top of it. It WILL fall, *"and great will be the fall of it!"* (Matt 7:26-27). We probably ought to think about getting out of the way of the crushing debris. But, if we refuse to participate, how can we possibly reclaim what was lost? Some will no doubt ask with the Psalmist, *"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"*

Worry not; God knows how to rebuild with His people. Once we've turned from our foolishness and rejected the open idolatry of the State, He will act in our favor. We must have faith in our King and His promises and be prepared to follow where He leads us.

"Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord God, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel. Thus saith the Lord God; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by." (Ezekiel 36:32-34)

I don't know what sort of Christianity he professed, but he surely saw then what so few yet see today, even inside the true Israel of God... Nevertheless, Etienne De La Boetie concludes his message to his posterity, of which we are spiritual children anyway, with the following remarks:

"Let us therefore learn while there is yet time, let us learn to do good. Let us raise our eyes to heaven for the sake of our honor, for the very love of virtue, or, to speak wisely, for the love and praise of God Almighty, who is the infallible witness of our deeds and the just judge of our faults."

As for the question of what the righteous can do, we certainly do *not* need to be participating in the ritual of "voting". At least not for surrogate kings to rule us. The so-called "secret ballot" is not secret to Yahweh. He surely sees His people in this act of defiance and until we learn to repent of this evil, what we have done in secret, He will reward us openly. As He has done so many countless times before, He will give us the king of our choosing, who will again parade over us his sanctimonious lordship as all of his (or God forbid, *her*) predecessors have. Our enemies will thereby again triumph over us—**because we asked them to**... Instead, we must withdraw consent. Immediately, and with prejudice, asking in dust and ashes for our God to have mercy on our foolish rebellion... that unlike Israel of old who said, 'Nay, but we will have a Saul, or a Caesar, or a Barabbas!' and then lived to see the blood they'd called down upon their own heads and that of their children, *and only then* cried out to have "the Lord not hear them in that day", let us not wait until there is no remedy.

We have a King who has ALL power and ALL authority and He will rule with us, or against us.