



THE CROSS *and* CROWN

"No Cross, No Crown"

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"Brothers and sisters, pray for us." 1 Thessalonians 5:25

David's kingship was sandwiched between the reigns of Saul and Solomon, two kings who, like David, were specifically chosen as king by God and whose reigns ended poorly.

All three kings began their reigns in humility. The difference between David and the other two is that David remained humble to the end, "a man after God's own heart." (1 Samuel 13:14)



One of the greatest challenges that we face as Christians is that of remaining humble. Pride isn't something that only the rich and powerful need to be wary of. Our enemy, the Devil, attacks the humility even of those without wealth and power by playing to their ego, telling them that they deserve more. This goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden, when he convinced Adam and Eve that they could be like God and that God was selling them short in forbidding them to eat from the tree.

David was far from perfect. The Bible doesn't cover up the big sins that he committed. What set him apart from Saul and Solomon was that, ultimately, after every transgression, he acknowledged that God was right and repented of his sin. Contrast that with Saul, who placed his own will and judgment above God's command, and with Solomon, who, as a result of trying to consolidate power, ended up following many foreign gods.

Pride can show up in many different ways, so we must constantly examine our hearts. Let King David's prayer be our example: "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalm 139:23,25)

*Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the Lord.
"These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who
tremble at my word. (Isaiah 66:2)*

Brothers and Sisters, Pray for Us!

This week, we heard from two long-time members of Highway who are dealing with physical issues. Please join us in praying for God's continued grace and faithfulness to his children.







We're here for the next generation!

As always, we welcome you to reach out to us with any prayer needs. We're all in this together!

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

Please do keep in touch! We're always delighted when we hear from you, to share your news or prayer requests – or just to chat!

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! Just call or write us, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know, or subscribe to it at crossandcrown.online/subscribe !

Did You Know?

The most commonly accepted reason that we refer to a group of lions as a pride is that lions are associated with royalty. Kings have traditionally identified with lions, from David, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, to Richard the Lionhearted. Lions themselves are known as kings of the beasts, moving about in regal pride.

The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

(Psalm 34:10)



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