

# Gifts from God No. 1

## DEMOCRACY

Our most cherished democratic values are grounded in Jesus' sovereign authority.

Though Christ's kingdom is not of this world, he nevertheless promotes his own kingdom right here on Earth. And who are his foot-soldiers? He uses us – weak, fragile, ordinary people.

We are his royal witnesses and ambassadors – “a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people.” 1 Peter 2.9 (NKJV).

Through his great commission (Matthew 28.19), we are called to represent and embody his royal prerogatives and divine rights on Earth.

How does it work out in practice? He gives us the freedom and right to influence our community on his behalf, not by forcibly over-riding human society but by our example, love and godly discipline.

Our freedom of speech and religion are God-given, authorising us to evangelise, teach and share the Gospel of Christ worldwide. Matthew 28.19.

And the teaching of Christ is a leveller of the human race. In him we have a delightful unity – we are all one. “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3.28 (NKJV).

How democratic is that!

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**The mighty God of creation is not embarrassed about working humbly,  
yet powerfully, through ordinary human beings.**

**Ken Packer**