



SATURDAY 1

THE INFLUENCE OF HIS KINGDOM



Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence (John 18:36).

One of the charges for which Jesus was condemned was that He declared Himself to be a king. When Pilate asked Him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus replied, ***"...My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence"*** (John 18:36).

Pilate, intrigued by Jesus' response, sought further clarification regarding His kingship. He asked again, "Are you a king then?" Jesus elaborated, saying, ***"...To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice"*** (John 18:37).

The Lord Jesus stating that He was a king meant He was the ruler of a kingdom. But where was His kingdom? He clarified that His kingdom was not of this world, meaning it was foreign to this earthly realm. The rulers of the time couldn't understand His kingdom because they couldn't see it; they were perplexed by it.

The next important point is that Jesus had a mission to extend the influence and power of His heavenly kingdom to this world. He came to bring the blessings, the goodness,