

A Power Greater Than Ourselves

Canadians are in the middle of maneuvering a snap election called by our Prime Minister, Mr. Justin Trudeau. Just days out at the time of this writing, there is a jockeying for power from all the different political powers, as they vie for the people's confidence and ultimately our votes.

Mr. Trudeau has been slammed by the opposition for calling the election more than two years ahead of the fixed date of October 2023, during a pandemic, and other significant troublesome events in our own country and around the world. He is accused of taking advantage of the timing to win a majority government for greater power and control.

Mr. Trudeau's response, was as much an acknowledgment of this as fact when he stood outside Rideau Hall on the day of the election announcement and said, "In this pivotal, consequential moment, who wouldn't want their chance to help decide where our county goes from here?"

POWER can be defined as "the capacity or ability to direct or influence the behavior of others or the course of events". Politicians and political parties are looking for power. The media seeks power. Daily our lives are bombarded by forces looking to control our lives; some external, many internal. Think about it; what influences the decisions and behaviors of your life? Do politics, media or maybe things like shame, fear, the need for security, desire for money or happiness play a significant role?



Step two of the Alcoholics Anonymous twelve step program says, "**we came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity**". In step one we acknowledged that we were powerless to beat addiction in our lives. Oh, we could white knuckle it, some better than others, but sooner or later it's venomous fangs would open and take us down once again. Our own strength wasn't enough.

Step two finds us looking outside of ourselves, for something more to believe in to help overcome the demons in our lives. Scripture is very clear and direct about the true source of power. Psalm 18 describes it this way "*The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*" The psalmist having realized his own frailty and weakness, knew the place, the person where he could plant his trust in.

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God was his rock, the place to stand. His shield of protection. His deliverer and stronghold from the evil around. The horn of his salvation. His power. The power to overcome. The power to live righteously. You don't have to struggle with addiction to realize that for all of us there is a struggle for power and control going on in our lives.



The bible tells us that it all started in the beginning of time when humanity was tricked to believe that God was holding back, and to be like Him knowing good and evil was power and worthy of disobedience to Him. Childlike trust exchanged for self-righteousness.

Since that day, God has been bringing His children back to Himself, reversing self-righteousness, giving back childlike faith and trust. It requires giving up control. Allowing His influence to direct our decisions and behaviours. Surrender.



2 Corinthians 5:17 says *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."* In Christ, is to give Him the power to influence and guide our decisions and behaviors. I love the promise from Jesus Himself given to all those in Christ found in John 14:27 *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*

Ultimately isn't peace the one thing humanity is trying to maintain through power and control?

May the peace of God rest on you.

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