

Rethinking Theocracy

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Contemporary people cringe at the word "theocracy." We think, "rule by priests." Sounds bad. Conjures up images of Rasputins and Ayatollahs, hooded men, Grand Inquistors, cutting off hands, burning people at the stake.

Cringe we should.

But we should note that communists do the same thing as theocrats -- even worse. Consider True Father's description of life in North Korea:

"Horizontal contact is absolutely forbidden. They just want people to follow the orders given to them vertically, from above. ...the authorities don't allow the conditions to exist in which people can ...travel. They will demand to know every detail of a person's travel plan. ...They make it so difficult ...that most people just decide to spend their entire lives in the place of their birth, and never leave.

"They classify the entire population, starting with the parents of school children. ...the children become thoroughly linked to the state through the schools.

"They create a split between parents and children... the authorities assimilate school children into the system and make them work for the state. ...The children are required to report everything that was said [at home] ...the children must absolutely file a report. They will be severely scolded if they don't write down in that report everything that was said. ...If [parents] say something critical and are found out, they will have their rations cut.

"What do [communists] think of the home? They say the home is a den of reactionary elements. If you read Marx's writing on communist theory, you see that he considered the family to be an idol. He also said that the family is the origin of exploitation. This is why they make absolutely sure that people do not develop an interest in their families. The children are embraced at school and educated in this way."

True Father once said that children's education should take place in the family, not at schools, using educational videos while traveling in RVs. Now we know where this comes from!

So, we don't want communism, and the "free world" is collapsing. It's time to rethink our concept of theocracy. After all, the word's root meaning is the rule, regime, or strength of God.

And we do have prototypes of successful God-centered government in the western world. We'll look at them in the context of the third reformation and the Cheon Il Guk Constitution.

(Citations: The Way of Unification in God's Providence, 294-6; etymological root of "theocracy" found at www.etymonline.com/word/theocracy.)