

The Majority, the Minority, and the Lord

In Exodus 23:2, Moses instructed Israel, "You shall not follow the masses in doing evil..." This is good advice for us as well, for sin is still sinful even if a majority of people choose to do it.

At the same time, we must also resist the influence of smaller groups who promote evil. For example, consider the influence of the Pharisees, chief priests, and scribes. When Jesus entered Jerusalem in the week before His crucifixion, the multitudes cried out in His praise. Notice Matthew 21:9:

The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD; Hosanna in the highest!"

However, by the end of the week "the chief priests and the elders persuaded the multitudes to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death" (Matthew 27:20). Because of the influence of a minority, the multitudes shouted, "Crucify Him!" Let us never be so persuaded by a powerful, godless minority.

We who are citizens of heaven (Phil. 3:20) and the kingdom of God's Son (Col. 1:13) must live in the world without absorbing godless influence from either the majority or the minorities. Regardless of the will of the majority or the influence of any minority, it is God's will that has preeminence. The apostle Paul stated it well in Romans 3:4:

Let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written, "That You may be justified in Your words, and prevail when You are judged."

Indeed, God is always true and righteous even if every man chooses to rebel. When the majority rejects God in any way, God is still true. Likewise, when any minority exerts influence and manages to promote godlessness, God's ways are still right. As majorities and minorities follow their own ways, Christians must remain loyal to God and follow after His will. After all, it is Christ who has all power and authority in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18); who should have greater influence than He?