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**“GOD SAVE THE KING!”**

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"God Save the King!"



A Souvenir of the Coronation  
of  
Their Most Gracious Majesties  
King George VI and Queen Elizabeth

*Issued by*  
THE SOVEREIGN GRACE UNION  
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LONDON, E.C.4

*A Pamphlet written specially  
for children by  
A. C. A.*

## THE KING

And all the people shouted and said : GOD SAVE THE  
KING !—1 Samuel x. 24.

God save our gracious King ;  
Long live our noble King ;  
God save the King !  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us :  
God save the King !

O Lord our God arise !  
Scatter his enemies  
And make them fall ;  
Confound their politics ;  
Frustrate their knavish tricks ;  
On Thee our hopes we fix ;  
God save us all !

Thy choicest gifts in store  
On him be pleased to pour ;  
Long may he reign ;  
May he defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause  
To sing with heart and voice,  
“ God save the King ! ”

## THE KING'S OATH

*Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel? Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law?*

*All this I promise to do.*

## “GOD SAVE THE KING!”

When our new King George VI is crowned on May 12, I think he will know, and perhaps his little daughter, the Princess Elizabeth, will know (although you may not), how many Kings of England have been crowned before him. Do you know that for a thousand years and more our kings have been crowned? Perhaps you have seen at Kingston-on-Thames the large stone with railings round it, near the market-place. On that “King’s Stone” seven of King Alfred’s successors were crowned in the tenth century, and now in the twentieth century we have still a King who is descended from good King Alfred!

I expect all the people who assembled at a coronation in those long-ago days shouted, “God save the King!”, for you must know that three thousand years ago this was what the Israelites

shouted when they hailed their first king, Saul. You remember the story of how Samuel met Saul, and how God told him : “ Behold the man whom I spake to thee of. This same shall reign over My people.” Then Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and told him that God had anointed him captain over His people. A little later, when the people were gathered together and had hailed him in the words we now use, “ God save the king ! ” Samuel turned to the Book of the Law (Deuteronomy) and read how the king was to govern his people. Above everything else, he was to keep God’s Word by him, and read it every day, so that he might fear the Lord and keep His commandments.

But, alas, Saul did not fear the Lord, and God removed him and chose David to be king in his

place. He was anointed by Samuel a long time before he came to the throne, but when Saul was dead the men of Judah anointed him their king, and seven years after that, he was anointed again, over all Israel. We read more in the Bible about anointing than about crowning the king. Both in 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles we are told of the little boy king Joash, how when he was seven years old good Jehoiada arranged for his coronation. “ Then they brought out the king’s son, and put upon him the crown and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him and said : God save the King ! ” We know that the kings wore royal robes and even went to battle wearing their crowns, as Saul did (2 Samuel i. 10). The crown is the sign of royal majesty and dignity, and the anointing means that the king is set apart in a special way above his fellows to be over them as a

king. He acknowledges that it is God who gives him this honour.

So the Coronation is not only a fine pageant such as we are preparing for now, but it is an important and solemn ceremony for the King and Queen. And it is very important to all of us their subjects, because the king takes an oath, that is, makes the most solemn promise to God in the presence of all the people in Westminster Abbey, that he will to the utmost of his power **“maintain the laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel,”** and **“the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law.”** Kings used to take an oath to uphold the laws and liberties of England (as our King still does), but James II did all that he could to destroy Protestantism and liberty, and the nation rose against him. William of Orange came from Holland to the help of

Britain, and James II fled one night in December, 1688. Then William III and Queen Mary (James's daughter) were crowned. It was decided that no popish sovereign should ever again reign in England. A law was passed called the Act of Succession, the most important law in the land, because by it we have Protestant kings who are bound to take the oath which our gracious King George VI is to take. Nine sovereigns since William III have taken it at their coronation ; our new king is the tenth. We pray to God that He will save us from ever again having a king who is not a Protestant, or who does not mean what he says by this royal coronation oath.

To those who love the Word of God, the most interesting part of the ceremony occurs immediately after the crown has been placed upon the

*“ Mercy and truth preserve the king ; and*

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King’s head. The Archbishop hands to him a copy of the Holy Bible, saying :—

**“ Our gracious King : we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is wisdom ; this is the Royal Law ; these are the lively Oracles of God.”**

Such a presentation has been made, and these words have been used ever since the coronation of William III and Mary II in 1689. Surely this should remind us of Samuel’s words when Saul was made king, and of Jehoiada’s giving “ the Testimony ” to little Joash at his coronation. But it is not enough that the king should possess a Bible ; he cannot be really true to his royal oath unless he keeps it by him and reads it and is guided by it. The Bible is now read in nearly

*his throne is upholden by mercy ”* Prov. xx. 28

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800 languages, many of which are used by the subjects of the King-Emperor. No doubt you remember the beautiful story about King George V, told to the children when he died last year. He used to give a Bible as a prize to a school-boy or girl in Norfolk, and handing it to the child would tell how Queen Victoria gave him one when he was a small boy, and advised him to read a chapter every night, and he had done it and been glad.

Our new king is like his honoured father, and is determined to follow in his footsteps as far as he can. It makes us happy and thankful that he and his Queen take their little girls to church. We pray God to bless them all. God’s blessing on the King and the Royal Family is His blessing on the whole nation and the world-wide empire

“The king’s favour is toward a wise servant” Prov.  
xiv. 35

where the British flag flies. It is the blessing of God that makes king and people united and strong.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
On him be pleased to pour,  
    Long may he reign.  
May he defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause,  
To sing with heart and voice,  
    “God save the King!”

“By Me kings reign.” It is Jesus who says this. He is the King of kings. He rules the whole world. Our King owes Him the same honour and obedience as do his poorest subjects. There have been emperors and great kings, like Nebuchadnezzar, who would have their subjects worship them, and even in our land, some have tried to set their laws above God’s law. But a day is coming when all over the world the Lord

“Where the word of a king is, there is power” Eccl.  
viii. 4

Jesus will be known to be King of kings and Lord of lords, when “the knowledge of the glory of God shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.” Jesus is Lord of all ; may He reign in your heart and mine.

All hail the power of Jesus’ name,  
    Let angels prostrate fall ;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
    And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe  
    On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
    And crown Him Lord of all.

Oh that with yonder sacred throng  
    We at His feet may fall,  
Join in the everlasting song  
    And crown Him Lord of all.

*Perronet.*

## THE KING OF KINGS

“ And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it : for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it : and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.”

“ He is Lord of lords, and King of kings : and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful.”

“ And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written :

KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

Revelation xxi. 23, 24 ; xvii. 14 ; xix. 16.

“ For by Grace are ye saved through Faith ; and that not of yourselves : it is the gift of God : not of works, lest any man should boast.”—*Eph. ii. 8, 9.*

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## SOVEREIGN GRACE UNION

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The Sovereign Grace Union was formed in 1875, and reorganised in 1914, “ for the proclamation and defence of the Doctrines of Free and Sovereign Grace.”

It seeks by meetings and by publications to set forth in its purity the Protestant Reformed Religion.

Every subscriber receives copies of all pamphlets issued as well as the Quarterly Magazine “ Peace and Truth.”

Additional financial support is necessary to maintain and to extend this work to the glory of God.

New members will be welcomed by the Honorary Secretary, Sovereign Grace Union, 31 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.4.

# SOVEREIGN GRACE UNION

## BASIS

1. The Absolute Sufficiency of Holy Scripture for all matters of Faith and Practice.
2. The Triune Jehovah.
  - (a) The Sovereignty of God.
  - (b) The Deity and Perfect Humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - (c) The Personality of the Holy Ghost.
3. The Fall of Man.
4. Unconditional Election.
5. Particular Redemption.
6. Effectual Calling.
7. Justification by imputing the Obedience and Satisfaction of Christ.
8. Final Preservation.

*On the whole of the above, see the doctrinal Articles of the Church of England and of the Westminster Confession of Faith.*

