

ever was. So it is not really an error to put this under the heading priest, but I don't think it logically belongs there. It is a more important aspect of the work of Christ than his office as priest is his being the spotless Lamb of God, the perfect offering.

He offered the perfect offering. That is important. He gave his life. It was not taken from him. He made the offering and that is important in his work as priest. Far more important than his work as priest is his work as the spotless lamb of God, the sacrifice which he offered, a sacrifice which was sufficient to pay for the sins of the whole world. It is efficient only for those who believe, of course. Those who receive Christ into their hearts, God knew from all eternity who they would be. He predestined all things that come to pass including this. He controls all things. The sacrifice of Christ does not save those that turn their backs on him and go on their selfish ways. But it is sufficient for all. The infinite sacrifice which he made as the lamb of God.

Now there is a third element which I think can properly be put under his work as priest, and that is his intercessory work. His prayer of intercession. Of course the NT tells us he ever lives to make intercession for us. Jesus is today at the right hand of God making intercession for us. That is a true aspect of his work as priest. The most important thing of his work as priest is his offering himself on Calvary's cross for our sins. While his sacrifice is complete, finished, his intercessory work goes on. He continues to make intercession for us. The NT says he ever lives to make intercession for us. Isa. 53 points to it, predicts it, though every Bible translation I've seen mistranslates it and does not bring out that which is definitely there that he continues his intercessory work for us. He is at the right hand of God making intercession for us.

Third, the term king. This term king is a term that is meaningless today. Kings today are people who take part in a ceremony and have absolutely no power. I don't know of anybody called king today--there may be somebody somewhere but I don't know of anybody--that is called king that has any power at all. But it is interesting what a change has come in the attitude of the whole world. 100 years ago the world thought that the natural kind of government is a kingship. Even when I was a boy in school they said there are various types of governments in the world. There is the absolute monarchy like Russia and Turkey. There is the limited monarchy like England and Spain and many other countries. Then there is the republic of which Switzerland and the U.S.A. were about all there were when I was a boy.

The way that kingship has been swept out so that the term means nothing today is an interesting phenomena in the history of civilization. The thing (name) has been swept out but the fact has not. Russia is as absolute a monarchy today as there ever was.