

# The Blessing of a King

by [Walt Garlington](#) (June 2023)



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*The Old King*, Georges Rouault, 1937

**Who is like** unto a king,  
The living symbol  
Of national unity  
And sovereignty?  
Dark powers have deceived;  
Now many monarchs are deceased,  
Murdered by disloyal thanes,  
Replaced by the dead letter  
Of the law, death begetting death.  
For the law gives birth to death,  
But the Spirit pours forth Life.  
And a king anointed  
With the holy myrrh  
Is a vessel  
Of the Holy Ghost,  
Given gifts of governing,  
Mystically united  
With his people through the Grace  
Of the sacred oil,  
And they with him—  
Not two contending  
Forces, held in jealous  
Tension, but a single  
Family, extending  
Through the centuries,  
Brothers and bairns held  
Together by blood, belief,  
Suffering, and loyalty.

The golden crown  
Upon that head  
Sheds the radiant  
Light of Christ upon the land,

The earthly king  
An iconic image  
Of Heaven's King.

The Cross is in his hand,  
For all who bear the burden  
Of authority  
Will suffer for the sake  
Of those committed to their care.

The razor-sharp sword  
Rests upon his thigh,  
Ready to smite  
The fiendish enemy  
Though it cost him his life.

The poor and helpless  
He covers with the cape  
Upon his shoulders;  
The father will not  
Forsake his children.

The king binds the nation  
To her past; he protects  
The present generation;  
His sons are the hope  
Of the future.

Blessèd are they  
Who have not renounced  
Loyalty to the crown!

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**Walt Garlington** was born and raised in that part of Dixieland called Louisiana. A chemical engineer by training, he has spent the last several years writing full-time. He has written essays and poems for *The Hayride*, *New English Review*, *The Tenth Amendment Center*, *The Abbeville Institute*, *Reckonin'*, *Katehon*, *Geopolitica*, and *USA Really*. He writes regularly at his own web site, [Confiteri: A Southern Perspective](#).

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