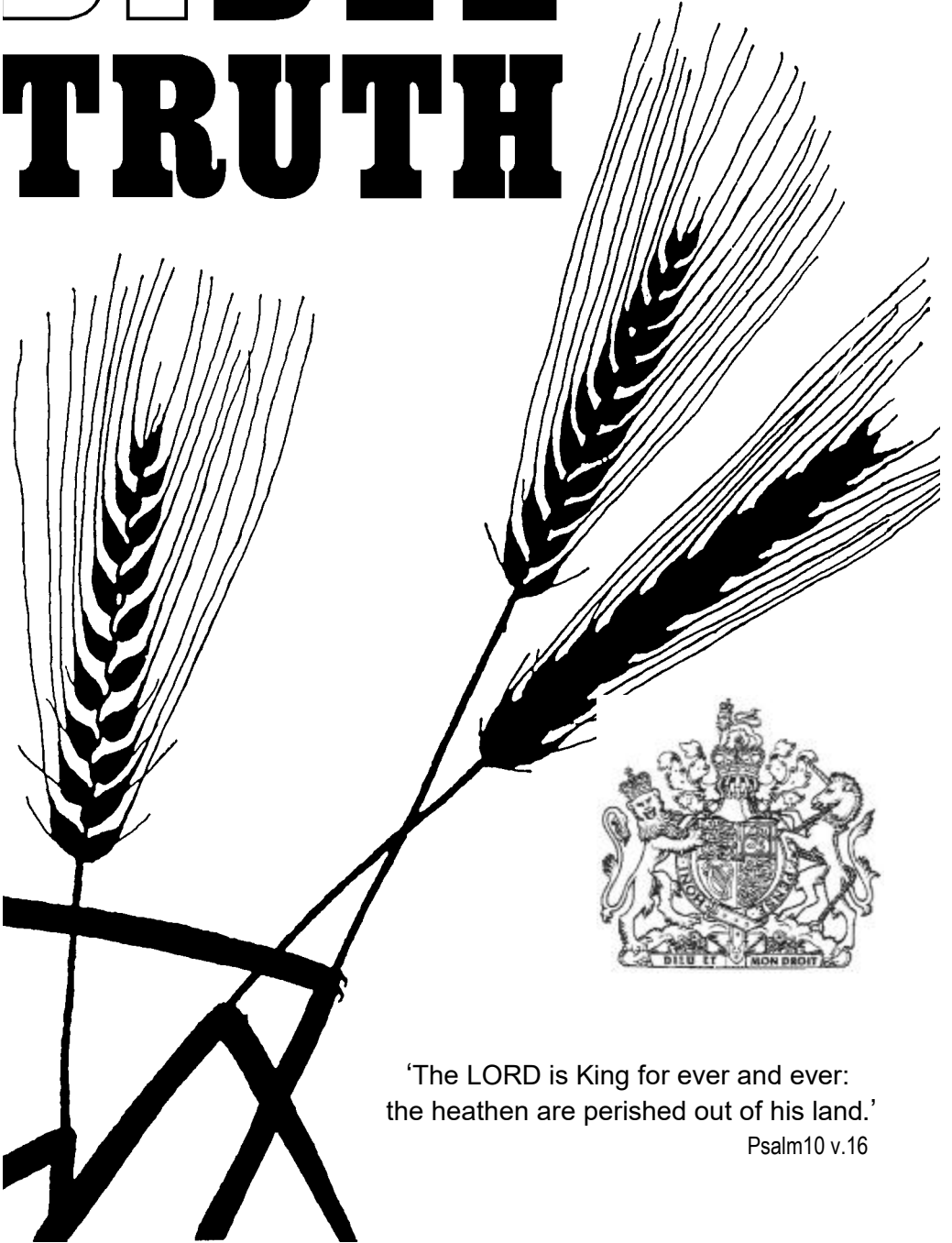


BIBLE TRUTH

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'The LORD is King for ever and ever:
the heathen are perished out of his land.'

Psalm10 v.16

The Royal Arms of King Charles III used under the temporary approval given to mark his Coronation.



Queen Elizabeth I instructed that all churches should have a royal coat of arms to symbolise the fact that the monarch was the head of the Church of England. *Halsbury's Laws of England* vol. 29 states that 'the Monarch is the only Supreme Head on Earth, under God, of the Church of England' (para 63). Vol. 34.

The title Supreme Head was claimed during the 1530s by King Henry VIII after his break with Rome. *Halsbury* also makes clear, the Monarch is Supreme Head by common law, as well as by statute: 'the statutory provisions regarding the supremacy of the Monarch in spiritual matters [at the Reformation] were declaratory of common law' (para 63n).

Thus Henry VIII was not the first King of England to be Supreme Head of the Church. The Monarch has always been Supreme Head of the Church by common law (which is itself derived from Divine law).

The Pope's supremacy was not abolished at the Reformation, because it had never existed in the first place. Any papal claim was merely an illegal usurpation of the Monarch's title.

Article 37 confirmed the constitutional position 'Where we attribute to the King's Majesty the chief government ... we give not to our Princes the ministering either of God's Word or of the Sacraments ...'. This Elizabethan clarification of the royal supremacy has been universally accepted. Nobody now suggests that the Monarch is a priest. When he republished the 39 Articles in 1628, King Charles I referred to 'Our just title ... Supreme Governour of the Church ...' (Royal Declaration).

So it is appropriate that Charles III will come to 'The Royal Peculiar' - Westminster Abbey to be invested as King by the senior clergy within that Church of England.

See *The Royal Supremacy: Governor or Head?* by Philip Jones

If the service follows the pattern of his mother's crowning then he will be given 'seven items', each preceded by the word 'Receive ...'

RECEIVE this kingly Sword, brought now from the Altar of God, and delivered to you by the hands of us the Bishops and servants of God, though unworthy. With this Sword do justice, stop the growth of iniquity, protect the holy Church of God, help and defend widows and orphans, restore the things that are gone to decay, maintain the things that are restored, punish and reform what is amiss, and confirm what is in good order: that doing these things you may be glorious in all virtue; and so faithfully serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this life, that you may reign for ever with him in the life which is to come. Amen.

RECEIVE the Bracelets (Armill or Arnil) of sincerity and wisdom, both for tokens of the Lord's protection embracing you on every side; and also for symbols and pledges of that bond which unites you with your Peoples: to the end that you may be strengthened in all your works and defended against your enemies both bodily and ghostly, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

RECEIVE this Imperial Robe, and the Lord your God endue you with knowledge and wisdom, with majesty and with power from on high; the Lord clothe you with the robe of righteousness, and with the garments of salvation. Amen. (This may be done differently for Charles.)

RECEIVE this Orb set under the Cross, and remember that the whole world is subject to the Power and Empire of Christ our Redeemer.

RECEIVE the Ring of kingly dignity, and the seal of Catholic (universal) Faith: and as you are this day consecrated to be our Head and Prince, so may you continue steadfastly as the Defender of Christ's Religion; that being rich in faith and blessed in all good works, you may reign with him who is the King of Kings, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

RECEIVE the Royal Sceptre, the ensign of kingly power and justice. And then shall he deliver the Rod with the Dove into the sovereign's left hand, and say,

RECEIVE the Rod of equity and mercy. Be so merciful that you be not too remiss, so execute justice that you forget not mercy. Punish the wicked, protect and cherish the just, and lead your people in the way wherein they should go.

The Sovereign then wears St Edward's crown and the people shout

GOD SAVE THE KING !