



"And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

LEAVING A LEGACY

Barack Obama considered the Affordable Care Act (AKA "Obamacare") the most significant domestic legacy of his presidency. President Trump has indicated numerous times that he wants "Make America Great Again" to be the theme of his legacy. Replacing the ACA seems to be a foundation stone of that quest. Obama and Trump are not the first leaders of nations to focus on which of their accomplishments they will be remembered for. The ego that drives such people to seek high office seems to guarantee it.

A DIVINELY PROMISED LEGACY

David wanted to be remembered as the king who built a "house for God to dwell in." It seemed like a noble desire, since David couched it in terms of the irony of himself having a house, although God did not. However, God told David he was misguided in his quest. The legacy God would give him would be greater than any building project, no matter how grandiose it might be. David's divinely promised legacy would be an eternal spiritual kingdom.

1. How might leaders' focus on their legacies be detrimental to their performance in office?
2. Is it overly harsh to say that human leaders are too focused on the legacies they leave? Why or why not?
3. Should any of us be concerned about our legacy? If so, what kind of legacy should it be?
4. How much time must pass before one's legacy may be properly evaluated? Give an example to substantiate your view.
5. To what extent does this discussion apply to church leaders? Explain.

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