



Part 6: A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD 1 Peter 2:9-17 Nov.8, 2020

We often use limiting language to describe our place in the world and the vital role we are each meant to play. Today's passage elevates our perspective and takes our perspective of the Christian life to a new level.

“Royal” - There is a nobility, a royal dignity that God desires we would all see in ourselves. While you may not have royal blood in your veins, the precious blood of Jesus has covered your sin and made you a new person - a joint heir with Jesus Christ who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. You are royalty!

“Priest...” - There is no longer a Levitical priesthood as in the Old Covenant, where only a privileged few had access to the presence of God. In the New Covenant, through Jesus Christ, all of us can now have confidence to come before the presence of God and serve as His ministers. A church does not function on one person with a gift. A healthy church is one where each believer is mobilized to use their spiritual gifting to build one another up in the faith. (See Hebrews 10:19-25; 1 Peter 4:10)

“...hood” - We are not just priests on our own we are part of a priest-HOOD. This means we are not alone in our calling and that we have fellow priests who can offer support and accountability. What if in this upside-down world we laid aside our opinions and self-righteous posturing, and simply worked to be an encouragement to one another especially within this priesthood? A divided world needs a unified Church!

:: LIFE APPLICATION

1) What stood out in today's message for you? Why?

2) What is your reaction to the fact that God's Word claims you are Royalty, a Saint, a Priest... What connotations do these words have for you? How does God's Word clarify the meaning of these titles?

3) In the Old Covenant only a select few had the privilege of ministering before God and entering His presence. Now, in the New Covenant in Jesus, all are able to experience the powerful presence of God and serve as His ministers. How does this affect your view of your relationship with God and how you are to serve Him daily?

4) Read 1 Peter 2:11-17. What kinds of attitudes and behaviours accompany the life of a priest within this priesthood? How does this passage affect your outlook on the civil unrest and mistrust in government in our world today?