

Royal Priests

Slide 6. [1Pe 2:8-12 KJV] 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, [even to them] which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. **9 But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10 Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. 11 Dearly beloved, I beseech [you] as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; 12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by [your] good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.**

[1Pe 2:9-12 NLT] **9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. 10 "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy."** 11 Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. 12 Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

God's Covenant was not Broken. The Covenant was Enhanced and Expanded.

Slide 7. [Jer 33:20-22 KJV] 20 Thus saith the LORD; **If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; 21 [Then] may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers. 22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.**

[Jer 33:20-22, 25-26 NLT] 20 "This is what the LORD says: If you can break my covenant with the day and the night so that one does not follow the other, 21 only then will my covenant with my servant David be broken. Only then will he no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne. The same is true for my covenant with the Levitical priests who minister before me. **22 And as the stars of the sky cannot be counted and the sand on the seashore cannot be measured, so I will multiply the descendants of my servant David and the Levites who minister before me.**"

A Royal Priesthood from a Holy Nation

Slide 8. Under God's Covenant with David, priests came from the tribe of Levi and royalty came from the tribe of Judah. The new covenant changed the source of priests and royalty. We are all royal priests.

NLT 9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession.

You are Not Like This.

Slide 9. [1Pe 2:8 NLT] 8 And, "He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

[1Pe 2:8 KJV] 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, [even to them] which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Jesus Made us Priests for God with a Purpose

Slide 10. [Rev 1:6 NLT] 6 He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

Who and How do we serve?

Slide 11. [Heb 12:28 KJV] 28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Only One High Priest. Our High Priest is Jesus Christ.

Slide 12. [Heb 8:1, 6 KJV] 1 Now of the things which we have spoken [this is] the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; ... 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

[Heb 8:6 NLT] 6 But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises.

Verse 9 cont. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Slide 13. [1Pe 2:9 KJV] 9 ... that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

[1Ti 6:15-16 KJV] 15 Which in his times he shall shew, [who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; 16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom [be] honour and power everlasting. Amen.

[1Ti 6:16 NLT] 16 He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will. All honor and power to him forever! Amen.

What does a priest do in the church, family, and community?

Slide 14. You come to church to be blessed and strengthened in the Lord. That is not the end of your story. You are blessed to be a blessing to your family, brothers and sisters in the church, and the community, showing your hope.

Walk in the Holy Spirit

Slide 15. [Gal 5:16, 25 KJV] 16 [This] I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. ... 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

From no one to someone (Verse 10) No longer Gentiles

Slide 16. 1 Peter 2: 10 Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God:

NLT "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people.

Slide 17. [1Pe 2:10 KJV] 10 ... which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy."

Alton Garrison: If God is the source of hope and the substance of hope is faith, then the supplier of hope is the Holy Spirit.