



"A Royal Priesthood" (Part 7)

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1 Peter 2:9



4 And coming to Him as the Living Stone, having been rejected by men—but chosen by God and precious [to Him]. **5** You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** For it is contained in Scripture: BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOSEN STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNERSTONE; AND THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NEVER BE PUT TO SHAME. **7** This honor, therefore, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER. **8** And: A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE. They stumble because they

are disobedient to the word, unto which [ends] they were appointed. **9** But you are AN ELECT RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR [GOD'S OWN] POSSESSION so that you might proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. **10** Once you were not a people, but now [you are the] people of God; [once you were] those who had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

– 1 Peter 2:4-10, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction

I. The Church as a Royal Priesthood (2:4-10)

A. **Established** in the Living Stone (4) *This is the Source of our Priesthood*

B. **Erected** as a Spiritual Temple (5) *This is the Structure of our Priesthood*

C. **Elected** as the People of God (vv. 6-10) *This is the Security of our Priesthood*

1. The Cornerstone of Our Belief (6a)
2. The Confidence of Our Belief (6b)
3. The Contrast of Unbelief (7-8a)
4. The Cause of Unbelief (8b)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Cornerstone of Our Belief (6a)2. The Confidence of Our Belief (6b)3. The Contrast of Unbelief (7-8a)4. The Cause of Unbelief (8b)5. The Character of God's People (9a)6. The Commission of God's People (9b)7. The Calling of God's People (9c) |
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5. The Character of God's People (9a)

a. An _____ Race

b. A _____ Priesthood

Melchizedekian Priesthood	Fulfilled in Jesus Christ
Was a royal priesthood - Melchizedek was a King and a Priest (Gen. 14:18), something unknown among Aaronic priests	Is both Priest and King (Zech. 6:12-14; Heb. 9:11; Rev. 19:16)
Was independent of ancestral ties (Heb. 7:3)	The priesthood of Christ is not dependent upon his being of Aaronic descent (Heb. 7:14)
Was both king of righteousness and king of peace (Heb. 7:2)	Though Christ was have both righteousness (Rom. 10:4; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Pet. 1:1) and peace (Acts 10:36; Rom. 5:1; Gal. 1:3; Eph. 2:14; Col. 3:15)
Was timeless in that there is no record of a beginning or a ending	Christ's priesthood is forever (Psalm 110:4, cf. Heb. 5:6, 6:20, 7:17)
Prefigured the future Priesthood of Jesus Christ in that it was superior to that of Aaron (note Abraham, through whom came Aaron, paid tithes to Melchizedek, cf. Heb. 7:4-10)	Christ's priesthood is superior to all others and infinitely perfect (Heb. 5:1-6, 7:11-28, 9:11-10:18)

c. A _____ Nation

(1) Note the adjectives . . .

(2) With citizenship comes _____

d. A people for God's own _____

(1) KJV = "peculiar people" - "peculiar" comes from the Latin *peculiaris* meaning "to possess as in private property"

(2) The Greek word behind our English Bibles is *peripoiēsis* (περιποίησις) - "possession," "property" (cf. noun form used in Acts 20:28)

(a) What are the implications of the fact that God owns you—all of you?

"God sovereignly elected all who believe, and by Christ's sacrifice on the cross paid the price to redeem them . . . and the Holy Spirit brought them to new life through conviction of sin and faith in the Savior, Therefore, all believers belong

Conclusion