Royal Priests

Ken Chapman · 1 Peter 2:9–10

INTRODUCTION

- Among those very basic emotional needs that we share in common is that we have this desire to know who we are.
- And then we have the desire to be appreciated, to be loved, to be cared for. Those basic emotional needs are met in Christ.
- The inspired writer has encapsulated, I believe, the sense in which Christ, in our relationship to him and the Father through him, has met the most basic needs of mankind.

1 We Occupy an Honored Position

1 Peter 2:9; 1 Peter 2:6; Exodus 19:5–6

- Every one of these descriptions in 1 Peter chapter 2, verse 9, is an honored position.
- We are chosen. Just like Christ was chosen. And I believe the connection by implication is we are precious, just as he is precious.
- You shall be to me a kingdom of priest and a holy nation.
- We've been separated from the world. We are a nation of people, separated from every other nation of people. That's what the word holy means.
- Though we're sojourners and strangers in a world not our own, we are honored by God.
- If you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to me above all people.

2 A Change of Status That Demands a Change of Heart

Colossians 2:12; Colossians 3:1–2

- There are two sides to this coin, but they're both heads. They're both good.
- This honored position is a changed position, and it's a change of status that demands a change of heart.
- Buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God who raised him from the dead.
- If you were then raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- That change of status into this honored position makes and translates to a change of mind, a change of heart.

3 Think as God's People, Act Like Separated People

Romans 12:1–2

- That honored position comes with a responsibility that we think as God's people. And that we act like separated people.

- We don't think like we used to think, or as others think. And we don't live and act like we used to live and act.
- Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
- So many times we put our energy and our focus into trying to get this world to conform to us.

4 Do What Priests Do: Offer Sacrifices

1 Peter 2:5

- If we're royal priest in this honored position, then we need to do what priests do. And priests offer sacrifices.
- We haven't been set apart to just sit apart. We've been set apart for a purpose, for a work, for a mission.
- You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Christ Jesus.
- I'll offer up the sacrifice of praise. I'll offer up the sacrifice of worship.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you make that choice this morning?**

MY NOTES