**Kingdom Identity Series Part 2: We are Kings & Priests**

Intro (Summary of Previous Message): In the previous message we introduced the reality that as Born Again Believers we have dual citizenship. We are citizens of the United States by natural birth and we are citizens of the Kingdom of God by spiritual birth. We also introduced the reality that we are not only citizens of the Kingdom of God, but we are ambassadors of the Kingdom of God representing that Kingdom here on earth. As ambassadors we are commissioned to proclaim the message of reconciliation, we are to proclaim that through the perfect work of Jesus, God is not holding mankind’s sins against them any longer, letting the world know that the only requirement for them to be made right with God is to place their trust in Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection for the forgiveness of our sins, which then opens up the door for them to experience God’s grace.

*Main Point: Tonight we endeavour to discover to two more aspects of Our Identity as members of the Kingdom of God.*  **Focus Statement: *You are Royalty***

**Main Text: 1 Peter 2:9**

*1 Peter 2:9 ESV*

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

*1 Peter 2:9 Kenneth Wuest Translation*

*But as for you, you are a race chosen out,* ***king-priests****, a set-apart nation, a people formed for [God's own] possession, in order that you might proclaim abroad the excellencies of the One who out of darkness called you into participation in His marvelous light,*

*1 Peter 2:9 KJV*

*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:*

“The "ye" is emphatic in the Greek text. Literally, "but as for you," in contrast to the disobedient of verse 8. **"Generation" is from a Greek word meaning "a race, a body with a common life and descent."** It does not mean here a group of individuals living within the span of a lifetime. **The word "royal" is the translation of the Greek word for "king." The Levitical priesthood were only priests. Believers in this dispensation are king-priests, associated with the Lord Jesus who is a priest after the order of Melchisedec, a king-priest.** The word "nation" is the translation of a Greek word meaning "a multitude of people of the same nature." The word "holy" in the Greek text means literally "set apart for the service of Deity." The word "peculiar" here is used in a way not often seen today. The Greek word means literally "to make around," that is, to make something and then to surround it with a circle, thus indicating ownership. The same verb is used in the Septuagint translation of Isaiah 43:21 which reads, "This people have I formed for myself." **The word "peculiar" today usually means "odd, strange." But it is not so used here. The Greek word speaks of the unique, private, personal ownership of the saints by God. Each saint is God's unique possession just as if that saint were the only human being in existence.** The words "show forth" in the Greek text refer to a spoken message. The word "praises" is not the translation of the Greek word customarily used to indicate praise, but of one which means "excellencies, gracious dealings, glorious attributes." The word "into" refers here not merely to locality, but to a result, that of the saints being participants of the light that God is in His nature. We are made creatures of light.”

-Kenneth Wuest Word Studies 1 Peter 2:9

*1 Peter 2:9-10 MSG*

*But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you-from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.*

Point One: **You are a King**

SImply put, a King is a person who is invested with Authority and is expected to exercise that Authority to protect current citizens and promote the advance of his Kingdom.

Jesus is the King of kings (we are the kings that He is King over) [1 Tim. 6:15] and we have been commissioned by Him to exercise His rule on earth:

*Matthew 28:18-20 ESV*

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

We are called kings because Jesus has delegated His authority to us. He has given us both the Authority & Power to continue His mission to destroy the works of the enemy: *Luke 10:19 KJVS Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

**Did you know you were a king?**

*2 Samuel 9:1-11 NLT*

*One day David asked, “Is anyone in Saul’s family still alive— anyone to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?” [2] He summoned a man named Ziba, who had been one of Saul’s servants. “Are you Ziba?” the king asked. “Yes sir, I am,” Ziba replied. [3] The king then asked him, “Is anyone still alive from Saul’s family? If so, I want to show God’s kindness to them.” Ziba replied, “Yes, one of Jonathan’s sons is still alive. He is crippled in both feet.” [4] “Where is he?” the king asked. “In Lo-debar,” Ziba told him, “at the home of Makir son of Ammiel.” [5] So David sent for him and brought him from Makir’s home. [6] His name was Mephibosheth; he was Jonathan’s son and Saul’s grandson. When he came to David, he bowed low to the ground in deep respect. David said, “Greetings, Mephibosheth.” Mephibosheth replied, “I am your servant.”*

*[7] “Don’t be afraid!” David said. “I intend to show kindness to you because of my promise to your father, Jonathan. I will give you all the property that once belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will eat here with me at the king’s table!” [8] Mephibosheth bowed respectfully and exclaimed, “Who is your servant, that you should show such kindness to a dead dog like me?” [9] Then the king summoned Saul’s servant Ziba and said, “I have given your master’s grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. [10] You and your sons and servants are to farm the land for him to produce food for your master’s household. But Mephibosheth, your master’s grandson, will eat here at my table.” (Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.) [11] Ziba replied, “Yes, my lord the king; I am your servant, and I will do all that you have commanded.” And from that time on, Mephibosheth ate regularly at David’s table, like one of the king’s own sons.*

**Just like Mephibosheth felt unworthy to eat at the master’s table, we can often times feel unworthy to partake of all that God has for us. However, our worthiness is not based on our behavior but is based on what God has done for us through Jesus' finished work for us.**

**Growth Opportunity: You No Longer Have To Live Below Your Worth**

**ACCEPT GOD’S GOODNESS TOWARD YOU!**

Point Two: **You are a Priest**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4 NLT*

*I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. [2] Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. [3] This is good and pleases God our Savior, [4] who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.*

Under the Old Covenant a priest was a person who offered up sacrifices on behalf of the people. However, once Jesus completed His mission here on earth, He commissioned us to complete His work here on earth which is to see the work of the enemy destroyed in the individual lives of people. Two major components of our priestly ministry on earth are us sharing the message of reconciliation (The Gospel of Jesus Christ) and us standing in prayer on behalf of people who need to hear this message and need to be discipled.

Summary: As kings we exercise the Dominion of the Kingdom and as priest we proclaim the message of reconciliation and prayer for those around us whom do not yet know the God that loves them so much that He was willing to put on flesh and die in order to make relationship with them possible.

**You Are Royalty with A Royal Mission!**