



# **A Kingdom Of Priest**

Compiled By Dr. Harold Bollinger

## Table of Contents

Forward		3
Chapter 1	You shall be called the priest of the Lord.	5
Chapter 2	You shall be a kingdom of priest and a holy nation.	8
Chapter 3	Ministering the priest makes the offering acceptable.	10

## Forward

### **Christian believers are both kings and priest.**

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9 NIV)

A priest may intercedes before God for another person, a family, a city, or a nation.

Communicating with God, speaking to and hearing from the God in prayer is the manner in which we do spiritual warfare

Communion in prayer makes the difference between failure and success.

The most powerful and effective prayers are when we pray in the Spirit, that is speaking God's words through your mouth, calling forth His will upon the earth as it is in heaven.

Praying in the Spirit is the Holy Spirit interceding through you for people and situations on earth.

All children of God are all responsible to the ministry of the priesthood, which is to be an intercessor.

Each Christian is both a king and a priest, a "royal priest". We need to be both because a king has authority, but a priest has access.

Our authority is given us as children of the Most High God.

We are children of God, and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. So that we have the authority to use the name of Jesus. (John 14:12-14 NKJV)

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. {13}  
“And whatever you ask in my name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. “If you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

This is the authority that we have been given to bring people into the Kingdom.

(Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV)

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. {19} “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, {20} “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

God is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

## **Chapter 1**

### **You will be called the priest of the Lord.**

#### **Isaiah 61:6**

But you will be called the priests of the LORD; you will be spoken of as ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

Under the old covenant, God ordained the priests of Israel to stand between him and his people. They brought God's word to the people and the people's needs and sins to God. Under the new covenant, all believers are priests of the Lord, reading God's Word and seeking to understand it, confessing their sins directly to God, and ministering to others.

### **The Lord speaks of his chosen priests.**

#### **Isaiah 66:21**

"I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites," says the LORD.

Isaiah brings his book to a close with great drama. For the faithless there is a sobering portrayal of judgment. For the faithful, there is a glorious picture of rich reward—"so will your name and descendants endure." The contrast is so striking that it would seem that everyone would want to be God's follower. But we are often just as rebellious, foolish, and reluctant to change as the Israelites.

## **God has made us to be priests of God the Father.**

### **Revelation 1:6**

And He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The Trinity—the Father (“him who is, and who was, and who is to come”), the Holy Spirit (“the seven spirits”), and the Son (Jesus Christ)—is the source of all truth (John 14:6-17; 1 John 2:27; Rev. 19:11). Thus we can be assured that John’s message is reliable and is God’s word to us.

## **The Priests shall reign upon the earth.**

### **Revelation 5:10**

“You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”

People from every nation are praising God before his throne. God’s message of salvation and eternal life is not limited to a specific culture, race, or country. Anyone who comes to God in repentance and faith is accepted by him and will be part of his kingdom. Don’t allow prejudice or bias to keep you from sharing Christ with others. Christ welcomes all people into his kingdom.

The song of God’s people praises Christ’s work. He

- (1) Was slain,
- (2) Purchased them with his blood,
- (3) Gathered them into a kingdom,
- (4) Made them priests, and

(5) Appointed them to reign on the earth.

Jesus has already died and paid the penalty for sin. He is now gathering us into his kingdom and making us priests. In the future we will reign with him. Worship God and praise him for what he has done, what he is doing, and what he will do for all who trust in him. When we realize the glorious future that awaits us, we will find the strength to face our present difficulties.

The believers' song praises Christ for bringing them into the kingdom and making them kings and priests. While now we are sometimes despised and mocked for our faith (John 15:17-27), in the future we will reign over all the earth (Luke 22:29-30). Christ's death made all believers priests of God—the channels of blessing between God and mankind (1 Peter 2:5-9).

## Chapter 2

**You shall be a kingdom of priest and a holy nation.**

### **Exodus 19:6**

And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

**You are a chosen race and a royal priesthood.**

### **1 Peter 2:9**

But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Christians sometimes speak of "the priesthood of all believers." In Old Testament times, people did not approach God directly. A priest acted as intermediary between God and sinful human beings. With Christ's victory on the cross, that pattern changed.

Now we can come directly into God's presence without fear (Hebrews 4:16), and we are given the responsibility of bringing others to him also (2 Cor. 5:18-21). When we are united with Christ as members of his body, we join in his priestly work of reconciling God and man.

People often base their self-concept on their accomplishments. But our relationship with Christ is far more important than our jobs, successes, wealth, or knowledge. We have been chosen by God as his very own, and we have been called to represent him to others. Remember that your value comes from being one of God's children, not from what you can achieve. You have worth because of what *God does*, not because of what you do.



## **You are built up as a spiritual house for a holy Priesthood.**

### **1 Peter 2:5**

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.

Peter portrays the church as a living, spiritual house, with Christ as the foundation and cornerstone and each believer as a stone.

Paul portrays the church as a body, with Christ as the head and each believer as a member (see, for example, Ephes. 4:15-16).

Both pictures emphasize *community*. One stone is not a temple or even a wall; one body part is useless without the others. In our individualistic society, it is easy to forget our interdependence with other Christians. When God calls you to a task, remember that he is also calling others to work with you.

Together your individual efforts will be multiplied. Look for those people and join with them to build a beautiful house for God.

## **The Holy have a part in the first resurrection.**

### **Revelation 20:6**

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Christians hold two basic views concerning this first resurrection. (1) Some believe that the first resurrection is spiritual (in our hearts at salvation), and that the Millennium is our spiritual reign with Christ between his first and second comings. During this time, we are priests of God because Christ reigns in our hearts. In this view, the second resurrection is the bodily resurrection of all people for judgment. (2) Others believe that the first resurrection occurs after Satan has been set aside. It is a physical resurrection of believers who then reign with Christ on the earth for a literal 1,000 years. The second resurrection occurs at the end of this Millennium in order to judge unbelievers who have died.

## Chapter 3

### **Ministering as a priest makes the offering acceptable.**

#### **Romans 15:16**

To be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Paul did not glory in what he had done, but in what God had done through him. Being proud of God's work is not a sin—it is worship. If you are not sure whether your pride is selfish or holy, ask yourself this question: Are you just as proud of what God is doing through other people as of what he is doing through you?

### **Described as a kingdom of priests**

#### **Exodus 19:6**

And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

God had a reason for rescuing the Israelites from slavery. Now he was ready to tell them what it was: Israel was to become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation where anyone could approach God freely.

It didn't take long, however, for the people to corrupt God's plan. God then established Aaron's descendants from the tribe of Levi as priests, representing what the entire nation should have been (Leviticus 8-9).

But with the coming of Jesus Christ, God has once again extended his plan to all believers. We are to become holy, a "royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9). The death and resurrection of Christ has allowed each of us to approach God freely.

Why did God choose Israel as his nation? God knew that no nation on earth was good enough to deserve to be called his people, his “treasured possession.” He chose Israel, not because of anything they had done, but in his love and mercy he chose Israel in spite of the wrong the nation had done and would do.

Why did he want to have a special nation on earth? To represent his way of life, to teach his Word, and to be an agent of salvation to the world. “All nations on earth” would be blessed through Abraham’s descendants (Genesis 18:18).

Gentiles and kings would come to the Lord through Israel, predicted Isaiah (Isaiah 60:3). Through the nation of Israel, the Messiah, God’s chosen Son, would be born.

God chose one nation and put it through a rigorous training program, so that one day it could be a channel for his blessings to the whole world.

In Genesis 15 and Genesis 17, God made a covenant with Abraham, promising to make his descendants into a great nation.

Now that promise was being realized as God restated his agreement with the Israelite nation, the descendants of Abraham.

God promised to bless and care for them. The people promised to obey him. The covenant was thus sealed.

But the good intentions of the people quickly wore off. Have you made a commitment to God? How are you holding up your end of the bargain?

**To ask Jesus to come into your heart please pray this Prayer:**

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. I ask you to forgive me of my sins and coming into my heart. I accept you as savior and will follow you as Lord. Amen.

References:

Holy Bible: King James Translation

Holy Bible: Living Bible Translation

Additional comments and charts are taken from: *Life Application Study Bible*. Illinois: Tyndale House 2007. Print

Matthew Henry Concise Bible Commentary