



**Christ
Calling...**



Decline



Accept

Part 20

Called to be

God's Holy Priests

1 Peter 2:1

So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech.

1 Peter 2:2

**Like newborn babies, you must crave
pure spiritual milk so that you will
grow into a full experience of
salvation. Cry out for this
nourishment,**

1 Peter 2:3

**now that you have had a taste
of the Lord's kindness.**

1 Peter 2:4

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

1 Peter 2:5

And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.

1 Peter 2:7

Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him,

1 Peter 2:8b

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

1 Peter 2:9a

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

1 Peter 2:9b

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

1 Peter 2:10

**“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.”**

1 Peter 2:11

Dear friends, I warn you as
“temporary residents and foreigners”
to keep away from worldly desires
that wage war against your very souls.

1 Peter 2:12a

Be careful to live properly
among your unbelieving neighbors.

1 Peter 2:12b

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.

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Principle #1

The idea and the fact that God is calling all of His people to be His holy priests has always been God's past, present, and future plan.

Past

Exodus 19:1

Exactly two months after the Israelites left Egypt, they arrived in the wilderness of Sinai.

Exodus 19:2

After breaking camp at Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and set up camp there at the base of Mount Sinai.

Exodus 19:3

Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God. The Lord called to him from the mountain and said,
“Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel:

Exodus 19:4

‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.

Exodus 19:5

Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.

Exodus 19:6

And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.’ This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.”

Future

Revelation 1:4

This letter is from John to the seven churches in the province of Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne;

Revelation 1:5a

and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world.

Revelation 1:5b

**All glory to him who loves us and has
freed us from our sins by shedding his
blood for us.**

Revelation 1:6

He has made us a Kingdom of priests
for God his Father. All glory and power
to him forever and ever! Amen.

Principle #1

The idea and the fact that God is calling all of His people to be His holy priests has always been God's past, present, and future plan.

Principle #2

Tragically, too many Christians have accidentally, foolishly, ignorantly, or disobediently declined or rejected God's call to serve Him as a holy priest.

Exodus 19:3

Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God. The Lord called to him from the mountain and said,
“Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel:

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‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.

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And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.’ This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.”

Exodus 19:7

So Moses returned from the mountain and called together the elders of the people and told them everything the Lord had commanded him.

Exodus 19:8

And all the people responded together, “We will do everything the Lord has commanded.”

So Moses brought the people’s answer back to the Lord.

Exodus 19:9

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I will come to you in a thick cloud, Moses, so the people themselves can hear me when I speak with you. Then they will always trust you.” Moses told the Lord what the people had said.

Exodus 19:10

Then the Lord told Moses, “Go down and prepare the people for my arrival. Consecrate them today and tomorrow, and have them wash their clothing.

Exodus 19:11

Be sure they are ready on the third day, for on that day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai as all the people watch.

Exodus 19:12

Mark off a boundary all around the mountain. Warn the people, 'Be careful! Do not go up on the mountain or even touch its boundaries. Anyone who touches the mountain will certainly be put to death.

Exodus 19:13

No hand may touch the person or animal that crosses the boundary; instead, stone them or shoot them with arrows. They must be put to death.’ However, when the ram’s horn sounds a long blast, then the people may go up on the mountain.”

Exodus 19:14

**So Moses went down to the people.
He consecrated them for worship,
and they washed their clothes.**

Exodus 19:15

He told them, “Get ready for the third day, and until then abstain from having sexual intercourse.”

Exodus 19:16

On the morning of the third day, thunder roared and lightning flashed, and a dense cloud came down on the mountain. There was a long, loud blast from a ram's horn, and all the people trembled.

Exodus 19:17

**Moses led them out from the camp
to meet with God, and they stood
at the foot of the mountain.**

Exodus 19:18

All of Mount Sinai was covered with smoke because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. The smoke billowed into the sky like smoke from a brick kiln, and the whole mountain shook violently.

Exodus 19:19

As the blast of the ram's horn grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God thundered his reply.

Exodus 20:18

When the people heard the thunder and the loud blast of the ram's horn, and when they saw the flashes of lightning and the smoke billowing from the mountain, they stood at a distance, trembling with fear.

Exodus 20:19

And they said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen. But don’t let God speak directly to us, or we will die!”

Exodus 20:20

“Don’t be afraid,” Moses answered them, “for God has come in this way to test you, and so that your fear of him will keep you from sinning!”

Exodus 20:21

**As the people stood in the distance,
Moses approached the dark cloud
where God was.**

Principle #2

Tragically, too many Christians have accidentally, foolishly, ignorantly, or disobediently declined or rejected God's call to serve Him as a holy priest.

Principle #3

God's holy priests are not perfect and they are not sinless, but they are called to continuously sin less.

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“temporary residents and foreigners”
to keep away from worldly desires
that wage war against your very souls.

Principle #3

God's holy priests are not perfect and they are not sinless, but they are called to continuously sin less.

Principle #4

**Faithful, God loving and God honoring
priests do not need to be afraid
of God's presence or His voice.**

Principle #5

**Every priest in the Kingdom of God
is required to be equipped
for the work of THE Ministry.**

1 Peter 2:9b

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

Principle #5

**Every priest in the Kingdom of God
is required to be equipped
for the work of THE Ministry.**

Principle #6

Every priest in the Kingdom of God is called to be an honorable steward of the sacred things of God.

Principle #7

Every priest in the Kingdom of God is called to worship Him powerfully and to intervene for others in their relationship (or lack of) with God.

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