

▶ **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024**

▶ **1 Peter 2:1-10 NIV**

▶ **Royal priesthood**

▶ As you come to him, the living Stone rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:4-5)

## ▶ **Introduction:**

- ▶ In this letter, Peter addressed Christians living in various parts of Asia Minor who were suffering rejection in the world because of their obedience to Christ. (Peter 4:12-16)

▶ He wrote this letter to remind them that ‘it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that they were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to them from their ancestors,

▶ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.’ ... “For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.” ((1:18-19, 23)

▶ “you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a **holy priesthood**, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (2:5).

**1. As a member of the Royal priesthood, I have constant access to the King.**

a) Baptists believe that ‘every believer today is a priest of God and may enter His presence in prayer directly through our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ.’

**b)** No other mediator is needed between God and people. As priests, we can study God's Word, pray for others, offer spiritual worship to God. We all have equal access to God—whether we are a preacher or not. (1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 5:9, 10.)



c) By coming to Him (Christ), believers constitute God's spiritual House or God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in us” (1 Cor. 3:16-17), we are also a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Eph. 2:19-22)

**2. As a member of the Royal Priesthood,  
I am urged to offer Spiritual sacrifices.**

**a)** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. (Rom 12:1).

**3. As a member of the Royal Priesthood, I am called to declare his praises.**

▶ “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Peter 2:9).

▶ “If you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; 6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” (Exodus 19:5-6).

**b)** And because of that obedience, we find Zechariah and Elizabeth, parents to John the Baptist, according to Luke, Elizabeth was from the daughters of Aaron, and they were both righteous before God, (Luke 1:5-6).

## ▶ **Conclusion:**

- ▶ This message reminds us of our divine calling and responsibility as believers. As living stones, we form a spiritual house, a community that reflects the goodness of God. As we navigate through life's challenges,

- ▶ As Living stones, we are encouraged to emulate Christ, the cornerstone, who suffered but remained steadfast, in submitting to God and standing firm in our faith.
- ▶ “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses,

▶ but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Heb.4:15-16).