

## **The Church** – “Priesthood of All Believers” (6-13-10) Orion Berridge

### **Intro-**

You have heard it said that “you are a royal priesthood” but what does that even mean and why is it important to us?

**We are a priesthood of believers because we believe that a great High Priest Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice.**

-perfectly obedient, he did not offer sacrifices for himself

-Christ was raised and is immortal so no more sacrifices ever need to be made

-He did not offer sacrifices for himself, he offered himself as the final sacrifice (as John said when he saw Jesus coming toward the Jordan “behold the lamb who takes away the sin of the world”

### **1 Peter 2:4-10**

**Verse 4a** “As you come to Him....

This indicates a daily coming to Him. Not to view the Gospel as an entry point but the very power and way of our lives.

**Verse 4b** ... rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious.”

**Peter emphasizes Jesus as the Chosen One and precious, also preeminent in this Priesthood.**

**Verse 5-6** Isaiah 28:16 is quoted here and mentions again this cornerstone. Back in verse 4 it refers to us as living stones, **before Christ we are dead stones but upon contact with the corner stone we become living stones, a spiritual building**, royal priesthood and holy nation to offer spiritual sacrifices.

**What are “Spiritual Sacrifices”?**

Romans 12 tells us to offer ourselves to God as living sacrifices that is our spiritual act of worship, later in chapter 12 it tells us to serve each other in our gifts “out doing one another in honor”

We also know from recent weeks that God calls us to

- join God on His mission to the world to “seek and save the lost”

-Glorify Him in worship and life

-to look to Him for help and deliverance

-to display as a church the manifold wisdom of God to the heavenliest

Now here we are to become living stones that are being built into a spiritual house a holy nation a royal priesthood.

### **Verse 7**

There is an honor (eschatological –end time) to those that believe and enter this priesthood. **Those who believe will not be put to shame.**

In verse 6 Isaiah 28:16 is quoted. 800 years before Peter, Isaiah says God will lay this cornerstone and Peter writes of it here and says Jesus is that cornerstone. Which confirms a prophecy in Psalm 118: 22 all this affecting us 2,000 years later, so that you will realize, recognize your inclusion and the Churches role in this new priesthood! How great is God? How awesome is He!

### **Verse 7-8**

**Whether you believe or not Christ is the cornerstone.**

### **Verse 9-11**

**A Royal Priesthood – To proclaim the Excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

**Clarifying our Priesthood – setting up Hebrews 13:11-16**

God has called us to become His people a Holy nation a Royal Priesthood!

A look at history on the doctrine of the Priesthood of all believers and we will see it was originally birthed to help us see that we do not need a man to atone for our sins and stand between us and God.

Old Testament priest would offer a sacrifice for your sins and take the body of that sacrifice outside of the city and burn it.

We are called to be a nation of priests, the rugged individualistic nature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century has at times hijacked this spiritual truth. So today if you heard that you are a priest that you individually are a person of God's own choosing that you individually are a holy priest, that's not the context here. It's that we are a people of God's own choosing, we are a Holy Nation, and we are a Holy Priesthood.

### **Hebrews 13:15-16**

Let's offer up sacrifices to God with the praise of our lips that acknowledge His name and let us do good and share what we have.

Time of prayer for each other.