

## Of Kings and Priests

**Revelation 1:5-6-** “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him Who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, And has made us kings and priests to God and His Father; to Him *be* the glory and the sovereignty into the ages of eternity. Amen.”

**Revelation 5:10-** “And did make us unto our God kings and priests; and we shall reign on the earth.”

As we’ve been discussing, God plainly tells us in His Word that we will be kings and priests in coming Kingdom and we will reign *with* Him for a thousand years. This may invoke images of coronations, crowns and robes or those “Nehru” looking jacket with the white collars. Only those here who remember the 60’s will know what a “Nehru” jacket is. In any case, it would be a good idea to take a hard look at what arena we will be stepping into before we think about crowns or collars.

After the dust settles from the war of all wars, there will be a tremendous clean up and restoration to begin along with the new assignments we will be given. How big

of a mop will we need to clean up 200 miles of blood six feet deep? When God says He will lay waste He means it.

**Ezekiel 35:3-4-** “And say unto it, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, O Mount Seir, I *am* against you, and I will stretch out My hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and a waste. I will raze (destroy to the ground) your cities, and you shall be desolate, and you shall know that I *am* the LORD.”

Jesus Christ will begin to set up His government, one of peace and righteousness.

**Isaiah 9:7-** “Of the increase of *His* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and over His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with righteousness from henceforth, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.” Finally, no more donkeys, elephants and leaders whose only attributes are how much of a proficient liar they are.

So, what of being kings and priests? According to the Free On-line Dictionary, a king is defined as a male sovereign or monarch; a man who holds life by tenure, usually by hereditary right, the chief authority over a country or people.

Historically, the role of kings was solely being responsible for the well-being of their kingdom. They did have courts and advisers to whom they sought from time

to time, but they held the ultimate power and rarely was his authority questioned or challenged.

In looking at the definition of a priest, we'll look at it from a biblical perspective as most definitions nowadays refer to the Catholic roles of dishing out Styrofoam wafers and ringing bells...

From the Free On-line Dictionary. Priest is defined as: (in Ecclesiastical terms), *Christianity* a person ordained to act as a mediator between God and man in administering the *sacraments*, preaching, blessing, guiding, etc.

The biblical role of a priest served several functions. They were chosen from among the men of the tribe of Levi. They were ordained by God to offer sacrifices, to represent their people in things pertaining to God in order to offer sacrifices and gifts for sins. Priests were able to sympathize with the people as they were subject to the same weaknesses and temptations as the people.

**Hebrews 5:1-3**- “For every high priest, being taken from among men to act in behalf of men, is appointed to serve in *the* things pertaining to God in order that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; *And* he is able to deal gently with those who sin in ignorance and those who have been led astray, since he himself is also encumbered with many weaknesses. And because of these *weaknesses*, he is obligated also to offer *sacrifices* for his own sins, exactly as *he does* for the people.”

Biblical priests were to teach the Law. **Leviticus 10:10-11** - “You are to distinguish between the holy and unholy, and between the unclean and clean, And so that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses.” The priests were also to determine whether a person was sick or healthy. **Leviticus 13:2-3**- “When a man has a swelling on the skin of his flesh, or a scab or bright spot, and it is on the skin of his flesh *like* the plague of leprosy, then he shall be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests. And the priest shall look on the plague on the skin of the flesh. And *if* the hair in the plague has turned white, and the plague in sight *is* deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosy. And the priest shall look on him and shall pronounce him unclean.” Whatever functions they may have had, their primary duty was to teach. **Deuteronomy 33:10**- “Let them teach Jacob Your judgments, and Israel Your law. Let them put incense before You and whole burnt sacrifice on Your altar.”

The English word "priest" actually has its roots in a Latin word. It came out of the Latin. Contrary to popular beliefs, its origins did not come out of the Greek or Hebrew. It comes from the Latin word, “pontiff” which immediately comes to mind as being the Pope. The pope is the “pontifus maximus” which is high priest. Pontiff actually means bridge builder. The high priest then is the bridge-builder between man and God. A priest can be considered to be a bridge-builder. Our High

Priest is Jesus Christ and He has bridged the gap between God and man. Through Him and Him alone, we have access to God the Father, the very throne room itself. We do not need an earthly priest as our mediator, nor a man wearing a fish hat or any marble statue. Jesus fixed the divide once and for all, forever.

**Revelation 5:10** clearly tells us that we will be kings and priests and reign on earth. Both roles have similar functions in that they display rulership, authority and dominion. They both govern but in different areas of administration. Kings are predominately in a political role whereas priests focus more on teaching. Specifically, one's relationship with God and his fellow man. One commonality of both is that they both can teach. Mainly by the example they set for others and the character of their hearts.

**Isaiah 61:1-6-** "The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me because the LORD has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To preach the acceptable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; To appoint to those who mourn in Zion, giving to them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the mantle of praise for the spirit of heaviness; so that they might be called trees of

righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified.” And they will build the old wastes, they will raise up the desolations of former times. And they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. And strangers will stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the stranger *will be* your plowmen and your vinedressers. But you shall be called the priests of the LORD; it will be said of you, “The ministers of our God;” you will eat the riches of the Gentiles, and you will boast in their glory.”

**1 Kings 8:56-61-** “Blessed *be* the LORD, Who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promises which He promised by the hand of Moses His servant. May the LORD our God be with us as He was with our fathers. Let Him not leave us nor forsake us, To incline our hearts to Himself, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments which He commanded our fathers. And let these my words, with which I have made supplications before the LORD, be near the LORD our God day and night, so that He may maintain the cause of His servant and the cause of His people Israel at all times as the matter requires, That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD *is* God; there *is no* other. And let your heart be perfect with the LORD our God: to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day.”

What we are being prepared for is to do His work in the Millennium. But while we are living our lives here and now, we are *working at being prepared*. When that time comes and the seventh trumpet sounds, we *will* be able to perform the works that are going to be required of us during the Millennium. Preparation begins in our hearts, a heart for God and His Son Jesus Christ.

**1 Chronicles 29:18-** “O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and prepare their heart to You.”

**1 Thessalonians 2:4-** “But even as we were approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, we speak in this manner: as *those* who please not men, but God, Who proves our hearts.”

**Isaiah 49:3-7-** “And said to Me, ‘You *are* My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.’ Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain; I have spent My strength for nothing, and in vain; *yet* surely justice is with the LORD, and My reward is with My God.’ And now, says the LORD—Who formed Me from the womb *to be* His servant, to bring Jacob again to Him, (though Israel is not gathered, yet I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength) He said, ‘It is but a little *thing* that You should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to bring back the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You for a light to the

nations, to be My salvation to the end of the earth.’ ” Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One, *to Him* Whom man despises, *to Him* Whom the nation hates, the Servant of rulers, “Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship because of the LORD Who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, and He shall choose You.”

We must have our hearts purified by the Word of God and by His Holy Spirit. We cannot accomplish this through any other way.

**1 Corinthians 2:5-10-** “So that your faith might not be in *the* wisdom of men, but in *the* power of God. Now we speak wisdom among the *spiritually* mature; however, *it is not the* wisdom of this world, nor of the rulers of this world, who are coming to nothing. Rather, we speak *the* wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom* that God foreordained before the ages unto our glory. Which not one of the rulers of this world has known (for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory); But according as it is written, “The eye has not seen, nor *the* ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God.”

We have been blessed with the knowledge of His Word that was miraculously revealed to us. Remember, God chose us before we were born. Sunday churchers



can have knowledge too. *The devil has knowledge.* What God has provided for us comes in two forms. It is not just knowledge. It is knowledge *plus* God's Holy Spirit that fills us and gives the understanding of His word, plan and purpose for us. Those that do not obey His Commandments exactly as He says to will always miss the mark

With Satan bound for a thousand years, Christ will begin to gather the people and heal and restore the earth. We will begin teaching His ways to the world being rebuilt.

**Isaiah 2:1-4-** “The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass, in the last days the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many people shall go and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the Word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.”

**Isaiah 30:19-21-** “For, O people who dwell in Zion at Jerusalem, you shall weep no more; He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He hears

it, He will answer you. And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your teachers shall not be removed into a corner any more, but your eyes shall see your teachers. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This *is* the way, walk in it,” when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left.”

**Isaiah 61:11-** “For as the earth brings forth its bud, and as the garden causes that which is sown to grow; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to grow before all the nations.”

**Ezekiel 36:33-38-** “Thus says the Lord GOD, “In the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also cause *you* to dwell in the cities, and the waste *places* shall be rebuilt. And the waste land shall be tilled, instead of being desolate before all who pass by. And they shall say, ‘This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden. And the wasted, desolate and ruined cities now *are* fenced and inhabited.’ And the nations that are left all around you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined *places and* planted that which was desolate. I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.” Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will yet be sought by the house of Israel to act for them. I will increase them with men like a flock. As a holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men. And they shall know that I *am* the LORD.”

**Isaiah 27:12-13-** “And it shall come to pass, in that day the LORD shall thresh from the stream of the river Euphrates to the river of Egypt, and you shall be gathered one by one, O children of Israel. And it shall come to pass, in that day a great ram’s horn shall be blown, and those perishing in the land of Assyria shall come, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt shall come and shall worship the LORD in the holy mountain at Jerusalem.”

**Romans 8:18-23-** “For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory that shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation itself is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God; Because the creation was subjected to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who subjected it in hope, In order that the creation itself might be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that all the creation is groaning together and travailing together until now. And not only *that*, but even we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, also groan within ourselves, awaiting the sonship—the redemption of our bodies.”

Jesus will authorize us to do our parts in the roles we are now preparing for. The changes in the earth and the people who survived will be spectacular thing to behold.

**Micah 4:3-5-** “And He shall judge among many people, and will rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. But they shall sit each one under his *own* vine and under his *own* fig tree; and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken, For all people will walk, *each* one in the name of his god; and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.”

**Hosea 2:18-20-** “And in that day I will make a covenant for them, with the beasts of the field, and with the birds of the heavens, and *with* the creeping things of the ground. And I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely. And I will betroth you to Me forever. Yea, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth you to Me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.”

**Isaiah 40:4-5-** “Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

**Isaiah 51:3-4-** “For the LORD shall comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places; and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden

of the LORD. Joy and gladness shall be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody. “Hearken to Me, My people; and give ear to Me, O My nation; for instruction shall proceed from Me, and I will make My justice as a light to the people.”

Perhaps a more realistic role that will incorporate both king and priest is *servant*.

**Matthew 20:26**- “However, it shall not be this way among you; but whoever would become great among you, let him be your servant;”

**Mark 9:35**- “And after sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.”

**Mark 10:43**- “But it shall not be this way among you; rather, whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant;”

**Philippians 2:7**- “But emptied Himself, *and* was made in *the* likeness of men, *and* took the form of a servant;”

**2 Timothy 2:24-25**- “Now it is obligatory *that* a servant of *the* Lord not be argumentative, but gentle toward all, competent to teach, forbearing, In meekness correcting those who set themselves in opposition; if perhaps God may grant them repentance unto acknowledging of *the* truth,”

While we may have many questions now about the part we will play in His Kingdom, His instructions for us now are quite clear. We must put on the mind of Christ.

**1 Corinthians 2:16-** “For who has known *the* mind of *the* Lord? Who shall instruct Him? But we have *the* mind of Christ.”

**Philippians 4:7-9-** “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever *things* are true, whatever *things* are honorable, whatever *things* are just, whatever *things* are pure, whatever *things* are lovely, whatever *things* are of good report; if *there be* any virtue and if *there be* any praise, think on these things. Whatever things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, you do also; and the God of peace shall be with you.”

We will see Him as He is. **1 John 3:2-3-** “Beloved, now we are the children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be; but we know that when He is manifested, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him exactly as He is. And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, even as He is pure.” Our knowledge and understanding will increase when we meet Him.

We’ve already been chosen as a royal priesthood. **1 Peter 2:9-** “But you are a chosen stock, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for a possession *of God*,

that you might proclaim His *excellent* virtues, Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;" It is critical *now* that we be a priest as it is that we rule righteously. It's a safe bet that if we are not fulfilling this role NOW, we will not be prepared when the time comes. This journey we're on is practice for what is to come.

As we grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ (**2 Peter 3:18**) we will grow towards perfection (**Matthew 5:48**). Our walk with God in this life is our preparation period. During this time God is creating us in Christ Jesus. His Divine guidance will yield in us the ability to perform those things when we get to His Kingdom. *But* we have got to get there first! Our preparation must be complete in alignment with the will and word of God.

**Revelation 2:26-27**- "And to the one who overcomes, and keeps My works unto *the* end, I will give authority over the nations; And he shall shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces; as I have also received from My Father;"

This is such a tremendous destiny! Does anyone truly believe for a moment that God would turn over all these responsibilities to people who have not displayed in their lives the devotion He requires? To those who have not correctly prepared to rule, control, judge and teach? To those who do not have the relationship with

Him? Keep dreaming! I sincerely doubt the internet will be up and running post Armageddon. Knowing God's Word now will keep our lamps trimmed so we will not go forward in darkness. We must demonstrate now the abilities to lead, teach and govern by the example we set for others. God wants us to be perfectly fit for use in His Kingdom.

We *are* going to be kings and priests. We will not only rule but judge, mediate and teach as well. I doubt we'll be wearing any crown at first, perhaps a hard hat and work boots will be the correct attire. We have so many wonderful things to look forward to and by the promises of God we *will* see them.

**2 Peter 3:13-** "But according to His promise, we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells." Amen.

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