

Kings and Priests - 2

Who Am I - Week 5 (4-17-24)

1 Peter 2:4-9

I. Friends of God

A. Proverbs on Friends

1. Proverbs 18:24 (AMP) and 27:17

B. The Tribe of Levi - Exodus 28:1-2 and 32:26-28

1. Aaron was called out by God. He did not seek the office of a priest.
 - a) The Levites did not have an inheritance.
 - b) Instead of requiring all of the first born in Israel for Himself, He took the tribe of Levi for His ministers and servants.

C. The Original King-Priests - Gen. 1:27-28

1. Their service to God was the result of their relationship with God.
 - a) Made in His Image. They communed with Him in the Garden

D. Examples

1. Gen. 5:24 - "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him"
2. Gen. 18:17-18
 - a) Abraham's established relationship with The Lord gave him insight into what The Lord was doing.
3. Exodus 33:11
 - a) Friend - Rea = Friend, darling, favorite, lover; comrade, companion, neighbor, one another.
 - b) This kind of relationship isn't just for Moses.
 - (1) Numbers 12:8

E. John 15:13-16

1. More than just a business relationship. It's personal.
2. Verse 14 - Our commitment to Jesus' commands reveals that we are His friends.
 - a) 1 John 5:1-5
 - (1) True friends love to serve one another.
 - (2) Grievous = weighty, burdensome, heavy, important
 - (a) Matt. 23 - Verses 4 and 23
 - b) We still live in service to God, but it comes out of knowing the Father and His heart intimately.
 - c) It's better to obey than to sacrifice - 1 Samuel 15:22

II. Service to God

A. Back to 1 Peter 2:4-9

1. Verse 5 - We are living stones being built into a house for God's presence to dwell.
 - a) We are simply an extension of Jesus and His power and dominion.
 - (1) It glorifies God when we bear much fruit - John 15:8

(a) We bear (carry) the fruit, while the life and power of Jesus produces it through us.

2. Living sacrifices - Romans 12:1-2

a) Our reasonable (rational) service is to be living sacrifices. No longer living for ourselves, but living for the cause and purposes of God.

(1) We do this by not being conformed by the world but by being transformed by allowing the Holy Spirit to renew our minds.

(a) This is unification with the Holy Spirit. Relationship. Friendship

B. Verse 9

1. "...Show forth the praises..."

a) Sacrifice of praise - Hebrews 13:15-16

(1) Hosea 14:2 (AMP) - "Take the words [confessing your guilt] with you and return to the Lord. Say to Him, "Take away all our wickedness; accept what is good and receive us graciously, so that we may present the fruit of our lips (gratitude)."

(2) Isaiah 61:3-6 and 10-11