

Priesthood 1

One of the greatest mysteries in the kingdom of God, is the mystery of priesthood. We see through the Levitical line, which was a physical bloodline, that the Levites where the designated priests who would prepare the sacrifice offerings for the people and offer them up to the Father on behalf of themselves and the people.

They would minister to the Lord first and then to the people. They were a set apart tribe from all the other tribes and they had no possession because God was their possession. Within this physical priesthood there were the outer court priests, who made up the majority and then there was the priest (singular) who would enter into the Holy of Holies place once a year.

There is much we can learn from this type of priestly ministry, while we must realise that it was a foreshadowing, a copy and shadow of something which was to come which was far greater.

Hebrews 3:1 declares we are His holy ones and as His Holy ones we are to be partaking of a heavenly calling. Jesus Christ is the High Priest and the Apostle of this heavenly calling and it is as we lay hold of all of which Jesus laid hold of us for, through revelation, that we start to grasp the magnitude of what it is to be apostolic priests of His kingdom and live out this heavenly calling now on earth.

To enter into this priesthood we must have entered into the High Priest, as this priesthood is not on the basis of a physical law, like the Levitical line, but on the power of an indestructible life through the One who said "I am the resurrection and the Life".

Hebrews 7:15-16 And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.

John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Questions

- 1. What images or thoughts come to mind when you hear the word priests or priesthood?
- The Levitical priesthood was a foreshadowing of something far greater, which is discovered under the New Covenant? Jesus is the Apostle and High priest of this heavenly calling for us. What is our understanding of this apostolic priestly calling based on the power of an indestructible life in Christ for us as His people?
- 3. To enter into this priesthood, one must have and be entering into Christ. What does this mean to enter into Christ?
- 4. What is it to lay hold of all of which we were laid hold of by Christ Himself?

Action Point

Each person is to take the next 5 minutes and write down what they are sensing they need to do in relation to coming into the life of this kingdom mystery.

After each person has something written down, they are to share it with the group and the group is to help encourage and keep the person accountable to living out what they have written down.

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