

Resting in God
"The quiet peace of being where you are born to be"

Study 29

1 Peter 2:9 Amplified Bible " But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

To be chosen of God is no small thing. To be chosen to be the examples that God desires to show the world that He exists, is a pretty astounding privilege. To be asked to display the virtues and perfections of Jesus is a challenge beyond our comprehension.

God, however, has done just that. He has called you and me to be the living example of Jesus on this earth. He has asked us to display the life of Jesus to a world that is dark and out of answers. We are to be the testimony of the defeat of the lower kingdoms by Jesus. God has set us apart for Himself as a chosen race, even naming us a royal priesthood. Then, just for an additional love tap, He calls us His special people.

You and I are not like we once were in a time before we dedicated our lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Our confession of faith in Him put into effect every covenant promise made between Jesus and Father God. One of those promises is that in confessing Christ, our old nature would be discarded, and a new nature, one that is not only capable of living in heaven with Jesus for eternity but also while we are still in earthly bodies, will be given us. We have become spiritual beings while still in here on earth.

This union and communion is not really an option for us now that we are His. It is the reality of Christ and the work of the cross manifested for others to see. We are called to display His virtues and the perfection of Who Jesus is by the power of the Holy Spirit working in us. It is not only our privilege, but our commission. We are to take on the life of Christ, allowing His life, with all of the deeds that He did, and all of the wonders that He performed, to be visible in us.

Our limitless surrender to Jesus allows His limitless life to function properly through us. Anything less on our part short-circuits the plan of God for our life. There-in lies our dilemma. We can stay in our personal comfort zone on the sidelines of the work of God or we can submit fully to the work that God desires to do in us. To stay on the sidelines subjects us to a mediocre life, never really knowing God, His plans, or His supernatural provisions. We actually sentence ourselves to a form of godliness, but have denied the power that is available to us. We waste what Jesus has done and could do should we surrender fully to His ways.

Full surrender, a craving to delight in God's ways, the desire for holiness, the determined purpose to know Jesus and glorify Him in everything we do, however, leads to the most exciting adventure available to mankind. Becoming an available vessel, anytime, anywhere, at whatever cost, allows Jesus to take us wherever He needs to go. Through Him, we get to experience whatever He chooses to do, using all of the eternal power at His disposal, to accomplish the will of His Father. We get to be with Him wherever He goes. You can be sure that He is going some pretty interesting places before all of the plans of God are accomplished. Wisdom would be to choose to go with Him.

Matthew 11:12 (New International Version) From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

The most forceful action ever taken in all of the heavenlies was the surrender by Jesus to die as a man on the cross. His action overcame the power of eternal death, or separation from God, for all of mankind.

That form of violence, the surrender of our lives in exchange for His life, forcefully advances the kingdom to this day. Whenever we submit our human traits to the power of the Holy Spirit for Him to eliminate them, it causes irreparable damage to the lower kingdoms.

Today, in every corner of the world, God's chosen people, His royal priesthood is advancing the Kingdom of God and destroying the hold of the lower kingdoms by forsaking who they used to be and surrendering to who God has made them through Jesus. They are taking up the life of Jesus in exchange for their old rotting ways. They are becoming part of the irreversible tide of Christ-like lives, with Christ-like hearts, performing Christ-like actions, all for the honor of God and the glory of Jesus.

Hebrews 4:9-10 (New International Version) There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; 10) for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his.

Resting in God, is a heart rest even during troubled times, extreme challenges or intense operational tactics of prayer and submission. Resting in God comes from the knowledge of knowing who you really are in Christ, knowing that you are forever welcome in His presence, and knowing that you are in His perfect will each moment. Resting in God is for the pioneers of His final frontier for all of mankind. It is knowing that you are chosen player in the operations of God, flowing in His wisdom, might and power along with Jesus. It is being exactly where He has formed you to be as part of His Royal priesthood.

For thought or discussion:

What kind of preparation does a royal priest in Christ make

What kind of life can compare with a life fully surrendered to Christ