

# *The Duties of the Priest*

## *Part I*

***“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1Peter 2:9)***

Through the blood of Jesus and His work on the cross our sins had been atoned, we received eternal life and we became the children of God. As we respond to God’s call we become the chosen people of God, and He bestowed on us the title of royal priests to stand before him and to minister to Him and serve His people.

Some people when the word priest is mentioned and heard, the first come to their minds that the word priest is only meant by the religious leader, the priest of a church or the pastor of a church. But the correct thing is this: Everyone who is called by God and had accepted God’s call and started to live his life to Him, then he is a priest for the Lord.

We who follow Christ we are the royal priesthood for God on earth to proclaim to everyone in the world the praises of God who called us from darkness into the light. Royal priesthood it mean we are the priest of the King of kings and the Lord of lords, the Lord Jesus Christ.

As priests then how we can proclaim the praises of God? Not only by singing but by living the truth fully in our lives. Singing and playing music without obedience is a worship directed to Satan and not to God. God had called us to be His royal priesthood, to be true worshipper and to lead others into true worship. True worship is to offer your life fully to God and to live the word of God, ***“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.” (Romans 12:1)*** True worship is to apply the word of God in your life, to practice it, and to impact the people around you with non-compromising message. It means you live it before you speak it.

To be a royal priesthood for the Lord Jesus Christ is not only for a certain places or only for a certain period of time of your life. But from the time that you had committed your life to the LORD then you are priest for God, wherever you are and for all the days of your life till the Lord will come and take you with us to heaven.

Someone may say, if I am a priest, then where is my assignment, in which church? ***“<sup>3</sup> Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.” (1Corinthians 11:3)*** According to this word, God the Father is the Head of Christ, God the son. Christ is the head of the man and man is the head of the woman his wife. So man and woman are placed as priests in the family. The husband should be the one to lead the family, the wife is the suitable helper for the husband who is leading the family to do God’s will and plan. Both of them are called to care and nurture the children physically and spiritually. That is why it is so important for the church to discern whom God is going to put together before blessing any marriage. We as a church are called to bless marriages that God had put together, then both of them, man and woman, will be the priests for the family. But those who are doing their own and want to marry what they like we are not called to approve or bless such marriages and officiate them.

Believer should marry a believer. But that does not mean that the believer can marry whatever believer he wish or like. No, that is not what the word of God says. God should be the one to bring the suitable helper to him when he is ready and mature for marriage. Even if a believer wants to marry a believer we need to be sure that this is God’s will and not a mere flesh desire. There is a certain believer partner to every believer whom God will bring at the proper time. For marriage, a believer cannot chose what he likes and wish, He / She should follow God’s will and accept God’s choice and not his choice. We as a church we stand firm to abide with this teaching because after marriage, if they did not follow God’s choice, they will not be able to function as priests for their families and lead the families in the way that God wants them to be.

For marriage partner we should wait for God who will not only give a partner but a priest (a pastor) to lead the family. For marriage partner we should wait upon God who will not only give a suitable helper but a priestess who will help the man to lead the family in the will of God. That is a must, ***“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.” (Deuteronomy 6:6)*** We keep this word of God in our hearts and we live according to His instructions. Because the man/woman, husband/wife are the priests of the family, ***“<sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup> Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)*** husband/wife are the one who will teach the children at home the discipline and the statue of God’s word and commands; the family is the school of the children. The parents who are the priests in the family are responsible to nurture the children and raise them as priests for God to lead the next generation. Man and woman as priests for the family should impress on their children the word of God. They teach them the word as they get up and as they lay down. They teach by the example of their lives as they live the word of God. God said, ***“Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads,”*** He means that His word should be manifested in the life of the parents and acted upon by the parts of their bodies. They teach by encouraging the children to follow God’s commands that bring blessings in their lives and by disciplining them with a rod when they disobey. The ministry of the priests is not only in the context of the family, but also outside the house as God’s word declare, ***“Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road.”***

***My Dear and Beloved:*** Do you understand your calling and what God had called you to be and to do? You are a royal priesthood; belong to Christ, to lead others and your family in holiness and righteousness. Delight in what the LORD had called you to do for Him. Be responsible and a man/woman of courage to walk with Christ and serve Him as you agree to pray.

***My Prayer:*** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal. Lord I commit myself into your hands to live my life as a royal priesthood for your glory; to live in holiness and to serve you all the days of my life. Lord I pray that you will provide for me and protect me and watch over my life as I a determine to walk with you, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*