

# The Duties of The Priest

## Part 4

***“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)***

After the event of the flood, God blessed Noah and his sons and gave them dominion on the earth over all the animals, the beasts and the birds, to be fruitful and multiply. ***“<sup>1</sup>Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. <sup>2</sup>The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands. <sup>3</sup>Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.” (Genesis 9:1-3)*** From this family of Noah Shem seemed to be the righteous branch, and if we trace his line we reach to Abram. And here we found another family called by God to keep the lamp of God lightened on earth, that was Abram family; ***“The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup>“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” <sup>4</sup>So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. <sup>5</sup>He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.” (Genesis 12:1-5)*** Abram responded to God’s call and he took his wife, and his nephew Lot and move where God had called to live. ***“<sup>11</sup> By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup> And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.” (Hebrews 11:11-12)*** See the effect of one person with his family when they will respond to God’s call, the church will be build up. Therefore the family has a great impact on the world around it.

Lot also came out with Abraham. But after the Lord had blessed Lot there was some quarrel and misunderstanding between Lot’s and Abraham’s men and that end up in separation. Lot chose to dwell in Sodom and Gomorrah but that was a wrong choice because that place was full of evil and he put himself and his family in danger. Finally God brought judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah and destroyed both of them but He saved the life of Lot and his two daughters, ***“So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.” (Genesis 19:20)***

Lot lived the rest of His life and settled in the mountains. Lot according to the bible was a righteous man, as we can read in ***2Peter 2:7 “and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men.”*** But what about his descendants? Let us read ***Genesis 19: 30-38 “<sup>30</sup> Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in the mountains, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. He and his two daughters lived in a cave. <sup>31</sup> One day the older daughter said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is no man around here to lie with us, as is the custom all over the earth. <sup>32</sup> Let’s get our father to drink wine and then lie with him and preserve our family line through our father.” <sup>33</sup> That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and lay with him. He was not aware of it when she lay***

***down or when she got up. <sup>34</sup> The next day the older daughter said to the younger, “Last night I lay with my father. Let’s get him to drink wine again tonight, and you go in and lie with him so we can preserve our family line through our father.” <sup>35</sup> So they got their father to drink wine that night also, and the younger daughter went and lay with him. Again he was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up. <sup>36</sup> So both of Lot’s daughters became pregnant by their father. <sup>37</sup> The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today. <sup>38</sup> The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.”*** These are shameful things that should not happen in the family; drinking and immorality that disfigure and damage greatly the image of God for the family. These are the bad outcome of a lack of discipline in the life of the family. Our families are the images that people through them can see and know God; therefore we need to keep the image holy.

*Living the word of God with full application of God’s commands in the life of the family will give the real and clear message to the world about Christianity. Those who are careful to discipline and correct their children they will bring up Godly offspring that will be a great testimony to others to know and follow Christ.*

The parents as royal priesthood over their families are required to raise their children in the fear of the Lord, ***“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” (Proverbs 22:6)*** Parents as priests they need to love care and provide for their children shelter and food and raise them up in the fear of the Lord. Parents they should give big portion of their times to care and to love their children and show them kindness and direct them how to live their lives and describe to them their duties and their responsibilities and prepare them for the future. Parents as priests should keep the right and joyful fellowship atmosphere in the house, ***“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:5)*** But Parents should not allow certain entertainment that causes children to learn bad things and cause them to fall in sin. Only holy things the children should allow to enjoy with and spend their leisure time inside the house. Parents should filter to the children what they will watch, listen and read. Even the toy they should involve in choosing for them. The parents should be firm with the children because every child has foolishness and the way of taking it out from the child is through discipline by a rod, ***“Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.” (Proverbs 22:15)*** The rod should be used in the home to keep children in the right way of life, ***“<sup>15</sup> The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother. <sup>17</sup> Discipline your son, and he will give you peace; he will bring delight to your soul.” (Proverbs 29:15,17)***

***My Dear and Beloved:*** The Lord had called you as royal priests to lead your family and children in the way of righteousness. Ahead of you is great responsibility, therefore do it well as Noah and Abraham. Remember you are not alone; the Lord is willing to help you as you commit your life and ways unto Him and 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 thank you for your word that makes me aware of the things that you want me to do for my family and my children. Lord I commit myself to give good time, effort and money to care for my family and especially my children, providing for them the right atmosphere in the home so they will raise up in the fear of the Lord. Lord give me the perseverance, the strength and the patient to achieve that, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*