

Pictures of the Church

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

The Church is a Priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)

A Priest is a Mediator Between Man and God (Job 9:32-33)

Peter in 1 Peter 2:9 alludes to Exodus 19:6. There are similarities and differences between Israel and the Church.

1. The Differences

- A. Israel had a priesthood
- B. The Church is a priesthood “But you are...a royal priesthood” (1 Peter 2:9)

2. The Similarities

- A. Both are Chosen
 - 1. Israel was chosen by God (Gen 12:1-3; Dt 7:6-8)
 - 2. The Church is chosen by God (1 Peter 1:2; 2:4)
- B. Both are a Kingdom of Priests
 - 1. God wanted to reign over and through Israel to bless the nations (1 Kings 10)
 - 2. Now the Church is the instrument through which He blesses the nations (Mt 28:19-20)
- C. Both are a Holy Nation
 - 1. Israel failed to be the holy nation and forfeited their priesthood (Mt 21:33-46)
 - 2. Now the Church is the people of God (Eph 2:19)

The Main Purpose of Priests is to Offer Up Sacrifices

1. The Sacrifice of Ourselves (Romans 12:1-2)

- A. This is the Exodus 29 of the New Testament
- B. This sacrifice initiates believer/priests into the New Testament priesthood

2. The Sacrifice of Praise (Hebrews 13:15)

3. The Sacrifice of Material Giving (Hebrews 13:16)

4. The Sacrifice of the Gospel (1 Peter 2:9; Romans 15:16)

5. The Sacrifice of the Intercessory Prayer (Exodus 28:12; Acts 12:5; 13:3; 14:23)