

Royal Priests - Ron Stullenbarger

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

If you are a Christian, you are a priest, chosen by God. As a member of the royal priesthood you have constant access to the King. If there is ever a need in your life, you don't have to find an intermediary or enlist another priest in order to gain a hearing from the King. Your position as a royal priest allows you direct access. This privilege describes your **position** as a priest.

However, priests also have a **function**. It is the responsibility of a priest to work within a *priesthood*. Scripture does not promote the practice of only being individual priests, each with a separate ministry. Rather, priests function together (Leviticus 9:1). An unbiblical sense of individualism can isolate you from functioning within God's royal priesthood as He intended. The priest represents God to the people, but he also takes the people's concerns to God.

Is there someone around you who desperately needs the intercession of one of God's priests? Perhaps someone will only come to know God by seeing Him in your life. Our world hungers for an expression of Christ as He really is, living out His life through His people.

It is dangerous to put our job above our calling by God. We are called to be priests first, and to hold a job second. When we get these out of order, everyone around us is denied access to the Father through us. God may have called you into a secular job as a vocation, but more importantly He has appointed you to be one of His royal priests.