

1st Peter

Christian Life Assembly

Fall 2014

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Today's Question

As you study the scriptures it is all but impossible to miss the fact that God desires to be glorified.

What does it mean to glorify God?




1st Peter 2:9-10

- We ended last week talking about 1st Peter 2:8 and the fact that there are consequences for rejecting Jesus.
 - 8 And, “He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they do not obey God’s word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.
 - The consequence for rejecting Jesus is darkness, pain, and separation from God forever. Heavy, heavy, heavy.
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **Now Peter addresses the condition and favor of those to whom he was writing – “you are not like those who reject Jesus”.**
 - **Those who rejected Jesus were appointed to doom, but those who believe were appointed to better things.**
 - **A chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own possession, bearers of His praises, and ones to whom mercy has been shown.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **So what is Peter saying? He is saying to these believing Jews who had been driven from their homeland by persecution, that they have found great favor with God.**
- **The Jewish people of the O.T. took some pride in being God's chosen people – but that election was a corporate one for the nation and not for individuals.**
- **By comparison, to be called 'chosen' as an individual is a far greater thing than to be 'chosen' as a part of a nation through whom God would work.**






1st Peter 2:9-10

- To be ‘chosen’ in the sense that Peter uses is a very personal thing – and yet there are some similarities.
 - God chose Israel to give us His word and His Son.
 - He chooses us to proclaim His word and His Son.
 - God chose Israel to install the priesthood.
 - He chooses all of us to be His priests.
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- The idea of 'race' here has nothing to do with nationality, or ethnicity, but a different kind of identity that comes only through the new birth.
 - Gal 3:26 For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on the character of Christ, like putting on new clothes. 28 There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **Our world judges, evaluates, elevates, oppresses, and endears based upon race, color, and ethnicity.**
 - **From God's point of view all of the externals that we use to separate are irrelevant.**
 - **In effect, God created a new race of people called 'Christians' when he called us to Himself – but this race is not about color, or physical features – this race is distinguished by having 'life'.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- Peter goes on to say that we are a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a people for God's own possession.
 - According to Moses, this has been the intention of God all along – not to have some of God's people as priests, and some not, but that we would all have access to Him.
 - Ex 19:5 “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; 6 *and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.* These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **God chose us for His own purpose and it becomes clear in verse #9 just what that purpose is.**
- **“So that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”**
- **As you study the scriptures it is all but impossible to miss the fact that God desires to be glorified (revealed).**






1st Peter 2:9-10

- **Matt 5:15 Neither do (men) light a lamp, and put it under the bushel, but on the stand; and it shineth unto all that are in the house. 16 Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. ASV**
 - **So when Peter tells us that we've been chosen to show forth the 'praises' (excellencies) of God we see a consistent message.**
 - **We have been made, ordained, and called to serve the purpose of glorifying God.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **There is no higher calling than the one we have from our birth as a Christian – we were created to glorify God and make Him known.**
 - **And here is the thing – we can glorify (reveal) God in any vocation, in any setting, and in any place if life.**
 - **Eph 4:1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **We are to glorify God because we have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light.**
- **There is a great contrast drawn in the Bible for us between darkness and light.**
- **Luke 22:53 “Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there every day. But this is your moment, the time when the power of darkness reigns.”**






1st Peter 2:9-10

- **A simple, but profound and infinitely important concept is the truth about the battle going between darkness and light.**
 - **In our day, most of our culture has no idea as to the darkness behind the evil we see.**
 - **While our culture still loves to see movies and read books about good triumphing over evil, most see evil as something that exists only in books and movies.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- **We do not like to deal with the real concepts of good and evil, darkness and light, because the only sure place you can go to delineate them properly is the Bible.**
 - **Homosexuality, abortion, and adultery are prominent among the sins that are reasoned away when we lose an absolute standard of right and wrong.**
 - **So we live in a world of great darkness, but when light shines in the darkness the darkness is always diffused.**
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1st Peter 2:9-10

- So when Peter says we've been called out of darkness to show the world what God is like, we begin to understand that the light we carry is very powerful.
 - John 1:4 The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.
 - 2 Cor 4:7 We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.
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Questions

