52 Days of Building a Second Wall with the Word and Wisdom

**Establishing the Priestly and Kingly Anointing of God Presence**

Day 18 – May 31, 2013

**Revelation 1:5- 6** “… Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and **has made us kings and priests** to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.”

Yesterday, we saw that King Solomon was a King and a Priest to his people; and we must know that Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, has appointed all those who come close to Him to be Kings and priests.

As we allow God to cleanse and purify us for Himself, and as we get closer to Him, He wants us to be His priests and His kings. We can all envision what that would look like to be a king, to be a priest; but we need to go to the Word of God and get His wisdom; because His ways are not always our ways. Let’s first look at what the Lord tells us about being a priest after His own heart. **Please read Ezekiel 44: 10-24.**

This passage of scripture describes two different groups of priests. We must see that these **two categories of priests represent believers today**. God has called all believers to come close to Him, but the sinfulness of our hearts keeps us at a distance. Believers who have not allowed God to purge and cleanse their lives, who willfully follow after their sinful desires and not the heart of God, they will still be a priest, that does not change; but **there will be consequences**. Verse 10 called it *bearing their iniquity*. They are to be gatekeepers and ministers of the house of God; they shall stand before the people and minister to them. The consequences are in verses 13 & 14: they shall **not come near Me to minister to Me as a priest**; and they will be in charge of the temple, **doing all the work that needs to be done**.

But the second category of priests did not stray into idolatrous ways; they stayed faithful to the Lord. **They are to come near to God to minister to Him!** They are to **keep His charge.**

**Keep** – *shamar* - to hedge about (as with thorns), that is, to guard; to protect, to be attentive to. When a property owner had a valuable piece of land, he would plant a thorny hedge all around it to keep marauding animals and men out.

**Charge** – *mishmereth* - to keep watch, to act as a sentry, observance of duty, to safeguard

When we **keep the Lord’s charge**, we deem his Word so valuable that we will do all we can to guard it in our hearts, we will be watchful of everything we do and say, we will observe all His commands, and we will act as a sentry in our homes and churches.

These priests are to teach God’s people the difference between the holy and the unholy; and in times of controversy, they are to be a counselor and a judge. These are the ones who **live out Psalm 119**, by keeping God’s laws, statues, commands, and precepts.

Let’s get practical: Look at your walk with the Lord. Is your #1 priority to minister to Him? Do you spend consistent quality time with Him every day? Or is this too hard because of the busyness of your day? Examine what it is you do every day. Most of us as believers fill our days doing good things, works for God and for others; but the problem is **we fill our days** and not make God our priority. **There is a big difference between doing for God and being with God,** and this is the difference between the two groups of priests. If this is a struggle for you as it is for most followers of Christ, we suggest you sit down with Him and set up windows of time for Him and your other responsibilities. If you put God first in your day, and allow Him to direct your way, you will be amazed at the difference in your day.

What does the Word tell us about being a **godly king**? The first thing we need to know is that God has put us in this role as a king.

**Daniel 2:20-21** “Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; **He removes kings and raises up kings**; **He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.”**

All throughout history, God is the one who puts leaders, good and bad, in place. He is the one who gives kings the wisdom and knowledge they need to be king. Whether or not they chose to listen to God, that is another story. **But we need to be the kind of kings that chose to listen to the wisdom of His Word.**

**What is a King?** The Old Testament word of **king** is ***melek* or *malak***. It means to reign, to ascend the throne, to take counsel, to be made king or queen.

Webster’s dictionary defines king as: the chief or sovereign of a nation; a man **invested with supreme authority** over a nation, tribe or country.

**Authority** - Legal power, or a right to command or to act; as the authority of a prince over subjects; power; rule; sway.

In **1 Samuel 8** the Children of God **wanted to have a king like all the other nations**. God told Samuel to go ahead and appoint a king since “**they have rejected Me from being king** over them.” In **1 Samuel 8:10-18, Samuel warns the people that earthly kings act very differently than God.** He says they will take your sons and make them be his soldiers, he will make you do his farming, and make weapons for his army, he will take your daughters and make them work for him, he will take your best fields and vineyards and give them to whoever he wants to, he will take your servants and livestock for himself, and **he will make you his servant**! Hasn’t this been true all throughout history?

But an earthly king is not the kind of king we are to be, who lords over his people and commands them to make his life better and more comfortable. **We are to be a king, like the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ.** When he came to earth in flesh the first time, He came as a **servant leader**.

**Matthew 20:28** “Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Remember Jesus washing the disciples feet, that was the lowest task of the lowest servant, and He was doing it for them! His heart was always for the people, that they would be healed and set free of the bondage of sin.

Jesus walked in great authority, even the religious leaders that wanted to kill Him could see the authority He walked in. It was evident to all!

**Matthew 21:23** “When He entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, ‘**By what authority are You doing these things**, and who gave You this authority’?"

**What are we to do with this authority?**

**Matthew 28:18-20** “And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘**All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

**Matthew 10:1** “Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and **gave them authority** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.”

**We have been given the authority as a king over the people in our sphere of influence.** We are to serve them and to lead them in the good way, the way of the Lord’s commandments. This sphere of influence will continue to grow more and more as God enlarges our tent, our heart; through the testings of our faith. Tomorrow we will study more on how to exercise our authority under the anointing of God to be kings and priests.

**DIGGING DEEPER:**

**Please read Psalm 72** and list all the ways a good king is to act for his people.

When an Israeli King took the throne, he was to write the Torah, the first 5 books of the Old Testament on a scroll, so he would know the Word of God. He was then to read his scroll every day.

We encourage you to continue to read **Psalms 119:25-48**, and to memorize **Psalm 119:33**.