

Revelation Series

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Outline/Power Point Pastor Gangwer

The Career of every Christian – Part I

Intro: We will go back to “kings” in Revelation 5:10, for now we will look at this verse in the context of “Priest’s”. And we will see the importance of Baptist distinctives involved in being the kind of priest that God has in mind.

Looking at the word Baptist we can see these distinctives that make Baptist who they are!

1. “B” - Baptist stands for the idea that the Bible is our final & absolute _____ in faith and life.
2. “A” - Autonomy as we believe in the autonomy of the local church of which God alone is the _____.
3. “P” – Priesthood of the Believer, we have through Christ, direct _____ to God.
4. “T” – Two _____, Baptism by emersion and the Lord’s Supper (Communion).
5. “I” – Individual Soul Liberty – I _____ to God and God alone.
6. “S” – We believe only in a saved (redeemed) _____.
7. “T” – Only _____ offices – Pastor and Deacons.
8. “S” – Separation of church and state, the church is to _____ by God’s authority alone.

These iron-clad, etched in stone, biblical truths/principles have been the cause of _____ going to jail, being burned at the stake, tortured, beaten, drowned and suffer the loss of rights and property. And here, God is using John on the Ilse of Patmos, to remind us that God has made us not only kings, but also priests.

These truths are very important for the Redeemed of the Lord to understand. Being a king, made so by God and a priest, is the _____ of the believer. Christianity is not a job, serving God is not a job. It is our career. What is the difference?

1. A career is something we enjoy doing and a job is something we can take it or leave it.
2. A career we dedicate time and energy to build, a job is about collecting a pay check.
3. A career gives us satisfaction while a job only satisfies a present need.

This may well get to the feminism in the ladies be they saved or unsaved. God created man with a career. Adam was to be a husbandman (dress) and a protector (keep) in the garden – Genesis 2:15 (dress & keep). Man was created to work and to serve as the word “dress” indicates, yes, man was to work even in a perfect utopian world. Dominion is about work and Adam was given (appointed by God) to have dominion! Woman was created by God to be a help-meet to her husband. This does not make her a second-class citizen, but one who has been given particular responsibilities as was man. There should never be a problem if a woman walks away from a job, but disaster is sure to follow if she walks away from her family. The Proverbs 31 woman was a woman who was very well balanced in her responsibilities and she was not only a blessing, she was called “blessed”.

To the point! We have been given by God, a career, and that career is to be a king and a priest. Rev. 5:10. For me, this career of being a godly king and a godly priest is more important than my job of being a pastor.

If being a pastor is problematic then I need to walk away and be faithful to the career God has saved and called me too. And that is true of any job we may have that hinders or _____ with our career of being kings and priests. This is our spiritual career as the Redeemed of the Lord, anything else is just a job!

We will be looking at five things important to our career as a priest.

In our career as a priest:

I. We have been _____ to be different than the world – (Peculiar) – Deut. 14:2; Titus 2:15 & I Peter 2:9.

- A. Peculiar means to belong _____ to one group; (and other meanings are odd, eccentric.)
- B. As a Christian, being peculiar, means I am a Christian first regardless of my _____.
 - 1. If I were a lawyer, then being such is guided by my life career as a child & priest of God.
 - 2. If I am a business man, then what I do is to be guided by my life career as child & priest of God.
 - 3. If I am a police officer, then what I do is to be guided by my life as child & priest of God.
- C. Being peculiar also means living a _____ life that honors God and His Word from which we get our distinctives as Baptists. We get no brownie points for being weird or odd-balls.
- D. We are a saved people who are meant by God, called and chosen by God to be marked and noted by particular biblical _____. (Exodus 19:5; Deut. 26:18) (Romans 16:17 & Philippians 3:17)
- E. We were meant by God to take _____ those distinctives that make us Baptist.
 - 1. Shame on us if we believe we can _____ our salvation as the Bible says otherwise - Rom. 8:35 – 39.
 - 2. Shame on us when we want to run our _____ based on emotions rather than God's principles.
 - 3. Shame on us if we want to run our church by _____ rather than by God's Word. I Tim. 3:5.
 - 4. That which makes us distinctive (peculiar) is our true and unwavering stand on God's Word.
 - a. There is no such thing as a charismatic Baptist.
 - b. One is either a charismatic or they are a Baptist with biblical distinctives.
 - c. To be a charismatic you have to be disobedient to the Word of God. I Cor. 13:8 – 10.
 - d. "Fail" means to cease or to be done.
- F. The fact is simple, we have been chosen by God to be distinctive and a part of a distinctive group.

In our career as priest:

II. We have been given direct _____ to God – (Numbers 16:5 – 11) – (Come near)

- A. We have here the challenge of Korah to Moses' authority given to him by God. (Jealousy)
 - 1. Korah and Moses were of the Levitical family called by God to be distinctive.
 - 2. Out of this family, Moses & Aaron were chosen by God to serve in a specific role.
- B. Moses could have argued with Korah, but Moses acquiesced to God to settle the dispute.
 - 1. How blessed to be able to _____ _____ to the Lord our God.
 - 2. Where ever we are; at home, in the car, at work, at or in church!
 - 3. Paul & Silas were in prison after a beating and at midnight they sang to God, God was there!

4. Daniel in the den of lions and God was there! Any time, any place, we can get close to God.

5. Jesus invites us to come – Matthew 11:28; “Come unto Me all ye that Labor...”

C. As priest we have the right & privileged to pray when & where ever we want and no one can take this right away from us as it is a God-given right of the Redeemed.

1. Precluding _____ in our lives – Isaiah 59:1 – 3.

2. People have died refusing to confess to an earthly priest.

3. People died refusing to baptize their infants in infant baptism.

4. People died for obeying the Word of God rather than submitting to false doctrines of men.

D. Daniel 6:7 - his enemies knew his daily habit of praying & Daniel knew he was to pray only to God.

1. No flesh can forgive what only God can forgive and the way in which He does forgive.

2. No one understands the human heart like God!