

The Message Notes

Message: *The Priest and Temple Worship*

Messenger: Pastor Keith (PK)

Text: I Peter 2:5 (NLT)

Date: November 20, 2022



Objective: to understand the function of the priest and the pattern of corporate worship in the assembly of God.

I Peter 2:5. And you are living stones, that God is building into his **spiritual temple**. What's more, you are his **holy priests**. Through the **mediation** of Jesus Christ, you offer **spiritual sacrifices** that **please** God.

Principle: The way we **see** our **identity in Christ** is the **way we follow Christ** and **worship** Him.

Introduction:

- a) God desires worship from us: Exodus 8:1
- b) God commanded a space and a place for worship: Exodus 25:8-9
- c) God established a priesthood for worship. In the **Old Covenant**, God **chose** the tribe of Levi to become the **priesthood** for Israel and **conduct** worship for the people. The duties of the priest were to:
 - Mediate for the people before God
 - Offer sacrifices to God
 - Teach the Law of God
 - Maintain the sanctuary holy before God

Message: Priests and Temple Worship:

“Do you **see your identity** in Christ as God's **temple** and the **priest** who maintain a **spiritual temple** and offer **spiritual sacrifices** before God?”

POINTS TO THE MESSAGE:

1. We're God's **spiritual temple**
 2. We're a **holy priesthood**
 3. We offer up **spiritual sacrifices**
- 1. We're God's Spiritual Temple – v5a.** And you are **living stones**, that God is **building** into his **spiritual temple**.
- We're living stones – Christ followers
 - God is building us into His spiritual temple
 - A Spiritual temple, a **space** for God's Spirit to dwell and a gathering **place** for His people to meet and worship Him

Reference: 2 Corinthians 6:16

2. We're a Holy Priesthood: v2:5b. And you are living stones, that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his **holy priests**.

- We go before God to mediate
- We offer spiritual sacrifices
- We teach God's Word
- We maintain a holy sanctuary

Christ opens Heaven's Most Holy Place for EVERYONE: Hebrews 10:19

The Priest and the Pattern of Worship:

OUTER COURT:

1. Gate Entrance: Person of Christ: John 14:6, Acts 4:12
2. Brazen Altar: Sacrifice of Christ: I John 2:2, Galatians 2:20
3. Brazen Laver: Cleanliness of Christ: I John 1:7, I John 1:9

HOLY PLACE:

1. Golden Lampstand: John 8:12
2. Shewbread: John 6:35a, Matthew 4:4
3. Altar of Incense: Hebrews 7:24-25, I Thessalonians 5:17, Revelation 5:8

HOLY OF HOLIES:

1. Ark of the Covenant (Commandments/Rod/Manna)
2. Mercy Seat (Throne of God/Blood)
3. Two Cherubims – Angels before the throne

3. We offer Spiritual Sacrifices: v5c. Through the **mediation** of Jesus Christ, you offer **spiritual sacrifices** that **please** God.

Spiritual Sacrifice symbolizes the bond you have with God and His worth to you. Spiritual sacrifices are offered to fulfill God's purpose or procure His favor. Examples of spiritual sacrifices:

- a) Worldly gain – Philippians 3:7-9
- b) Generosity – Acts 4:32
- c) Sacrificial Praise – Hebrews 13:15
- d) Spiritual Songs – Colossians 3:16
- e) Your Body – Romans 12:1

Romans 12:1. And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and **holy sacrifice** - the kind he will find **acceptable**. This is **truly** the way to **worship him**. (NLT)