

December 10

1 Peter 2:9 (NRSV)

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

I have broken down this Bible verse into 5 sections with reference to the Old Testament and what this means to us today, and followed by my thoughts and concluding with a prayer.

A CHOSEN PEOPLE – God initially chose Israel not on the basis of size or merit, but out of His great love for His people. He now has chosen us because of His grace and love for us.

ROYAL PRIESTHOOD – In the Old Testament, the tribe of Levi was the priestly line, and tribe of Judah was the royal line, and those lines were never crossed. However, we who are now in Christ are of a completely new line: we are people of the new covenant who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, who is both our High Priest and King of kings. Our present day Christians, together, are the royal priesthood. All believers are priests with direct access to our Father. We need no other mediator. We belong to God.

A HOLY NATION – We are called to holiness and you are also to be holy in all your conduct of life because God is holy and you are his children and made in his likeness. However, it does mean we are no longer driven by worldly values. We fight the battle of the mind living according to God's standards of holiness through the power of the Holy Spirit.

A PEOPLE FOR HIS POSSESSION – We have a personal relationship with Christ. We can know him and he knows us completely. We should be mentally alert as we prepare for Christ's return. God formed this nation, this race, this priesthood to take possession of us Christians. God has taken ownership of us. We belong to Him.

A MARVELOUS LIGHT – Our Heavenly Father, who redeemed us from the darkness of sin and death---into the glories of His life and light, in Christ. Because we belong to God, we belong in His light.

MY THOUGHTS

Our worship, praise, and thanksgiving will increase and grow every day because we realize God's goodness and love has called us out of darkness of sin and death, to a life with and for Christ, into the glorious light of His holy presence and eternal light of love. Darkness is the domain of those who reject God's offer of salvation. Those who refuse to trust in Christ have condemned themselves into eternal separation from their Creator. But we who have trusted in His holy name have been forgiven of sin, made holy and blameless in His sight, and given all we need for life according to His mercy and everlasting love. God loved us so much that He gave His son to go to the Cross for our sake, so that our sins could be forgiven, and we can show to the world the glories of His grace and love for us today. His wondrous deeds and His goodness are those things that make us praise God. We were redeemed so that we might proclaim the glory of God and keep up the remembrance of his light on earth. We are God's ambassadors, proclaiming the message of His son to the world and to our local area of Concord, North Carolina.

MY PRAYER

Thank you Father for including me as one of your chosen. With the power of the Holy Spirit, allow me to be a good and faithful witness of your light on my earthly walk. I want and pray that I might sing your eternal praises and glory from this day forward and forevermore. Amen.

~ Dennis Moulton