

**A Right Relationship with those without God**  
**1 Peter 2:9-10**

**I. Introduction**

**A. Evangelism: God's way or our way?**

1. "Evangelism" = programs, methods, booklets, whatever
2. Only 16% of Pastors evangelize
3. Highend- 13% of a church shares their faith
4. Other side: What brings people to church?
  - a) <5% from Outreach ministries
  - b) >80% are our friends, neighbors, relatives
  - c) WE ARE THE EVANGELISTS, right?
5. In fact – you could take almost HALF of the missionaries OFF the mission field and it wouldn't REDUCE the amount of disciple-making! Why?
  - a) They're doing all kinds of administrative work INSTEAD of EVANGELIZING
  - b) AND – Many have no idea how to evangelize – especially CULTURALLY!
6. Jesus' church is to WITNESS!
  - a) TOUCH a LOST WORLD with the GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!
7. Matt 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- a) What is the main verb? "Go?" – NO!
  - b) "make disciples"
  - c) Literally: As you go, MAKE DISCIPLES
  - d) EMPHASIS
    - (1) NOT on MISSIONS
    - (2) IS ON LIFESTYLE EVANGELISM!
  - e) "As you go about Your daily life"
    - (1) As you go through Life"
    - (2) MAKE DISCIPLES!"
8. This too is the Message of 1 Peter!
    - a) Yes – The world is persecuting you
    - b) Yes – You are scattered across Asia Minor
    - c) BUT God has called you for a purpose
    - d) As Jesus said "BE MY WITNESSES"
    - e) THIS WEEK Peter: Proclaim the Excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

- f) NEXT WEEK Peter: Keep your behavior excellent so that as non-Christians observe it, God will use the witness of your behavior to save them when they are presented the Gospel!

**B. Review – entering the last part of this section!**

**III. Facets of the Christian Walk (2:1-5:11)**

**A. The Relationship Responsibility of the Child of God (2:1-10)**

1. A right relationship to the **Word of God (2:1-3)**
2. A right relationship to the **Son of God (2:4-8)**
3. A right relationship to **those without God (2:9-10)**

**B. The Witnessing Responsibility of the Child of God (2:11-5:11)**

**C. Another way to look at this:**

1. v.1-3 Our PRIORITY: The WORD
2. v.4-8 Our POSITION in JC
3. v.9-10 Our PRIVILEGE – Proclaim the excellencies of GOD!

**D. Today: Study HOW to have a RIGHT RELATIONSHIP with those WITHOUT GOD**

1. v.9a: REMEMBER YOUR POSITION
2. v.9b: REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE
3. v.9c-10: REMEMBER YOUR PAST

**E. TURN TO 1 Peter 2:7-10 to read...**

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, “The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone,” 8 and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. 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.*

## II. (1) REMEMBER YOUR POSITION(v.9a)

**9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession,**

### A. But: Peter has used A LOT of CONTRASTS to **STRING HIS PEARLS together!**

1. UNBELIEVERS: 7 ...for those who disbelieve, "The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone," 8 and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.
  - a) = JUDGMENT – The rock will crush them.
2. Then in contrast, BUT...

### B. you are

1. NOT a command –
2. JUST – what you ARE – YOUR POSITION

### C. 1<sup>st</sup> part of your **POSITION = CHOSEN RACE**

**a chosen race, = 1 Peter 1:1Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered ..., who are chosen**

1. v.9 calls us a "race," "nation," and "a people" – ALL GROUP TERMS! = CHURCH
2. "race" = emphasizes the source – YOU are a CHOSEN PEOPLE PRODUCED FROM A SOURCE – GOD.
  - a) For us – the emphasis is on Jesus Christ – as our common source of NEW LIFE in the NEW BIRTH
    - (1) Ties back to 1:23 – YOU ALL have been born of the same seed
    - (2) Our common ancestor is Jesus Christ.
    - (3) Our race = Christians!
3. "chosen" = ELECT
  - a) Most PRIDE-CRUSHING doctrine in Scripture – I DID NOTHING
  - b) Most GOD-EXALTING doctrine in Scripture – GOD DID IT ALL
  - c) The Jews were a "chosen race"
    - (1) Deut 7:6-7
 

6 "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

7 "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples,
    - (2) Is 43:20end-21
 

20 ...My chosen people. 21 "The people whom I formed for Myself Will declare My praise.

### 4. Chosen for what?

## D. 2<sup>nd</sup> part of your POSITION = a royal priesthood

### a royal priesthood, = 1 Peter 2:6

#### 1. King Uzziah 2 Chronicles 26:1-23

1 And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah. ...v.2-15 CHRONICLE HIS GREAT DEEDS AS KING!

16 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the Lord his God, for he entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 Then Azariah the priest entered after him and with him eighty priests of the Lord, valiant men. 18 They opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful and will have no honor from the Lord God." 19 But Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and while he was enraged with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, beside the altar of incense...

21 King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death; and he lived in a separate house, being a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the Lord...

a) What's the problem here?

b) He was the WRONG kind of King

c) The office of KING of ISRAEL and PRIEST were SEPARATE!

#### 2. Do you remember who in the OT was both a KING and a PRIEST?

a) Melchizedek! (Heb 7:1)

b) And of what order of Priest is Jesus Christ? (Heb 7:17) – Order of Melchizedek!

c) Jesus also came through the ROYAL LINE OF JUDAH

d) Hence – a ROYAL PRIEST!

#### 3. Jesus Christ BROUGHT together the OFFICES of KING and PRIEST FOR US TO BE BOTH!

#### 4. SO – BECAUSE HE IS KING and PRIEST - we are ROYAL PRIESTS!

#### 5. We have both because WE ARE IN Jesus Christ!

#### 6. v.5 = HOLY Priesthood BUT v.9 = ROYAL Priesthood!

#### 7. 2 PARTS: DOMINION & SERVICE

a) ROYALTY means DOMINION

(1) *We will reign with Jesus Christ, right?*

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

2 Timothy 2:12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

(2) *Even Paul reminds us in 1 Cor 6:2 that we will judge the earth with Jesus Christ!*

b) PRIESTS serve God

(1) *Also ROYALTY SERVES THE KING –*

(2) *So SERVICE bound up in Royal Priesthood*

8. CONTEXT: Peter is speaking of a group = CHURCH.
- v.9 calls us a “race,” “nation,” and “a people” – ALL GROUP TERMS! = CHURCH
  - Not the Individual here*
  - Peter: As the Nation Israel was a priesthood that stood between God and other nations to proclaim His glory,... THIS ALSO is YOUR ROLE AS THE CHURCH!*
  - We are the representatives of God to the unsaved!*

**E. 3<sup>rd</sup> part of your Position: Holy Nation: We are a Set APART for GOD Group of PEOPLE**

**a holy nation, = 1 Peter 1:15-16**

- HOLY = Set apart
- Nation = “a people” (multitude)
- A people set apart for God –
  - Holy in position
  - to be holy in practice as He is Holy!
- How did this happen?
  - 1 Peter 1:2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.
  - In our salvation we became SANCTIFIED – Set APART FOR GOD
  - ALSO SANCTIFIED in our lives as WE ARE GROWN INTO CHRIST-LIKENESS.
  - 3 types of Sanctification
    - POSITIONAL – at SALVATION
    - PRACTICAL – in this life being made more like Christ.
    - PERFECT – GLORIFICATION = Christ-like.
- Here: Emphasis on POSITION as Holy

**F. 4<sup>th</sup> part of your Position: God’s Possession – Purchased by God through the blood of His Son.**

**a people for God’s own possession**

- “Possession” = acquired, purchased for a price.
- Peter quoting Ex 19:5 ‘Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine;
- We are a people whom God has purchased!
 

**1 Peter 1:18-19** knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

  - God bought us with the BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST!

4. Many times said in Scripture.

- Ephesians 1:14 ... with a view to the redemption (=bought) of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.
- 1 Corinthians 6:20 For you have been bought with a price...
- Acts 20:28 ...to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
- Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

**G. Transition: Remember WHO you ARE: REMEMBER YOUR POSITION: you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession!**

### III. (2) REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE (v.9b):

*v.9b...so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you*

**A. so that = PURPOSE for the POSITION YOU HAVE!**

**B. you may proclaim = ADVERTISE!**

1. VERB – ADVERTISE / PROCLAIM to THOSE OUTSIDE whatever has taken place!
  - a) GO TELL THE PEOPLE WHO WEREN'T THERE!
  - b) I.e. – CHRISTIANS tell NON-CHRISTIANS
  - c) WITNESSING!
2. Do you ADVERTISE what GOD HAS DONE in your LIFE to the unsaved world???

**C. the excellencies of Him**

1. PLURAL – not just the SAVING ASPECTS of GOD!
2. JUST ADVERTISE WHAT GOD HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE!
3. Witnessing is NOT TOUGH!
4. "excellencies"
  - a) Means "Excellent attributes seen in the acts by which God displays His glory"
  - b) We advertise WHO God is BY WHAT He has DONE!
  - c) Favorite word of Peter! (3 out of 4 uses in NT!)
 

*2 Peter 1:3 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*

**D. who has called you**

1. Note the completeness / efficaciousness of the call! - v.9c-10 into light, to a people of God, to mercy! CALL includes the RESULT!
2. "called" in the NT ALWAYS RESULTS in SALVATION.

**E. Transition**

1. Remember WHO you ARE: REMEMBER YOUR POSITION
2. Remember WHY you ARE: REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE – PROCLAIM HIS EXCELLENCIES!

#### IV. (3) Remember WHERE YOU ARE (v.9c-10) REMEMBER YOUR PAST

*(v.9c-10) 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.*

**A. Peter REMINDS his audience how they came to be where they are today!**

**B. Does so in a FASCINATING WAY**

1. BY STRONG CONTRAST
2. BY BORROWING NAMES OF Hosea's 2 Children!

Hosea 1:6 Then she conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. And the LORD said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel, that I would ever forgive them. (lo-RU-ha-mah= Not having Mercy)  
7 "But I will have compassion on the house of Judah and deliver them by the LORD their God, and will not deliver them by bow, sword, battle, horses or horsemen."  
8 When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and gave birth to a son. 9 And the LORD said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not My people and I am not your God." (Lo-a (as in add) mmi=Not a people)

3. Peter saying: What was true of Israel was true of you Gentiles! Take a look:

**C. Called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;**

1. Common description for what happens at salvation!
2. Called you = Efficacious call! - GOD DID IT NOT YOU!
3. DARKNESS = Your UNSAVED STATE of SIN
4. 2 Sides to SAME coin of Darkness

a) You WERE darkness

(1) John's Gospel talks much about light – Jesus Christ John 1:4

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

(2) Now you are "LIGHT in the LORD" Eph 5:8

8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

b) You WERE IN the domain of darkness now in the Kingdom of Light!

(1) Acts 26:18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

(2) Colossians 1:13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son [who is LIGHT],

(3) Satan = forces of darkness (Eph 6:12)

(4) Darkness is Satan's realm – God is letting him reign for now!

2 Corinthians 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- (a) Do you see how the metaphor works?
  - (i) The only way not to see the LIGHT of the gospel is to be BLIND.
  - (ii) You can shine a light directly in the eyes of a BLIND person and they WILL NOT SEE IT.
- c) Here the emphasis is YOU WERE DARKNESS – UNSAVED!
  - (1) Study darkness sometime!
  - (2) Before you were saved:
    - (a) You were it
    - (b) You were in it
    - (c) It was in you
    - (d) You were a child of it
    - (e) You walked in it
    - (f) You loved it!
    - (g) You didn't even know you were it and that there was light!
- 5. GOD HAS TO BRING YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO LIGHT – you cannot do it yourself – cannot UNDO your OWN BLINDNESS
  - a) You don't EVEN KNOW YOU'RE NOT SEEING IT!
- D. 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.**
  - 1. Romans 9:15; 23-26
 

15 For He says to Moses, "I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION." ... 23 And *He did so* to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory, 24 *even us*, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles. 25 As He says also in Hosea, "I WILL CALL THOSE WHO WERE NOT MY PEOPLE, 'MY PEOPLE,' AND HER WHO WAS NOT BELOVED, 'BELOVED.'" 26 "AND IT SHALL BE THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS SAID TO THEM, 'YOU ARE NOT MY PEOPLE,' THERE THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF THE LIVING GOD."
  - 2. **V.10 – from Hosea and seen through Paul REFERS TO GENTILES AND THE CHURCH!**
  - 3. God –
    - a) By His OWN GOOD PLEASURE
    - b) According to His PERFECT PLAN
    - c) CHOSE to make the GENTILES (US) His POSSESSION – as His People
  - 4. DID SO – based on His MERCY!
 

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

    - a) MERCY MOTIVATED GOD to CALL US, SAVE US!
    - b) MERCY = Compassion for our TERRIBLE CONDITION (Grace applies to GUILT)

- c) God FREELY CHOSE to SHOW MERCY!
  - (1) Paul called God “Father of Mercies” 2Cor 1:3
  - (2) Psalmist tells us God’s mercy ENDURES FOREVER (Ps 136:1)

#### **E. Peter –**

1. About to ENTER the MEAT of this LETTER
2. About to DETAIL the WITNESSING Responsibilities of Christians
  - a) In Society
  - b) At work
  - c) In the Home
3. Says – THERE’S a FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER as you GO INTO THE WORLD WITH THIS TEACHING!

#### **F. Transition**

1. REMEMBER YOUR POSITION
2. REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE
3. REMEMBER YOUR PAST

#### **G. Like Paul to Titus! – reverse ORDER from Peter! Tit 3:1-5**

1 (Behavior) Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, 2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. 3 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. (=not a people, not having mercy) 4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,...(The Position He put us IN...)

#### **V. CONCLUSION**

**A. If you want someone who reaches a lost world**

**B. AND Peter says you need to GO FORTH REMEMBERING**

1. Your POSITION, PURPOSE, PAST
2. How do we DO THIS?

**C. Start with insatiable thirst for WORD – fill yourself with the book! (2:1-3)**

**D. Maintain a STRONG relationship with Jesus Christ through CONTINUOUSLY DRAWING NEAR TO HIM (2:4-8)**

**E. THAT WILL LEAD YOU TO BEING PREPARED TO**

- a) WITNESS
- b) TO HAVE A PROPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE WITHOUT GOD

**F. THEN – PROCLAIM the EXCELLENCIES of GOD!**

1. Tell others WHAT He has DONE and HOW that DISPLAYS WHO HE IS!
2. Has He shown you MERCY? HOW?
3. KINDNESS? LOVE? MORE HOLY? HOW?

**G. AND – PRAY for OPPORTUNITY, OPEN HEARTS, etc for SPECIFIC UNSAVED persons!**

1. You could easily fill 15 minutes of daily prayer asking God for the salvation of people around you!

**H. AND- IF you found your OT KNOWLEDGE of YOUR POSITION, or YOUR PAST is WEAK – THEN GOTO THE WORD and study these areas this week**

1. If God pricked your conscience tonight with a bit of guilt, don't let the week pass without working on a better understanding of these things!

**I. LASTLY – IF this PASSAGE ISN'T YOU**

1. IF a priest is someone up here AND NOT YOU
2. IF you think you have to WORK for this POSITION – don't understand it is a free gift,...
3. PLEASE TALK TO ME!