

Enjoying Our Spiritual Privileges

“You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession...you are the people of God...you have received mercy.”

– I Peter 2:9-10 –

I remember hearing about a university student that commented to a pastor, “I’ve come to the conclusion that I don’t believe in God.” “I see”, said the pastor. “Please tell me about the God you don’t believe.” The student proceeded to describe a vengeful, unfair, arbitrary, cosmic ogre who delighted in watching earthlings stumble through life in search of meaning and direction. After listening to that portrayal of God, the pastor wisely replied, “I don’t believe in that God either.”

Like that student, most people have a warped view of God because they can’t see beyond their circumstances and the conditions that plague our fallen world. Their distorted worldview keeps them from understanding God’s goodness and mercy. But we as believers understand because we see beyond the physical realm and experience His grace and kindness in many ways.

Scripture speaks pointedly about the duties and responsibilities of Christians, but all of that is balanced by the rights and benefits we have in Christ. In writing to Christians who were experiencing severe persecution, the Apostle Peter reminded them of their spiritual privileges and called them to praise God for His abundant grace (1Peter 2:9). That is your calling as well.

As we read through those verses in I Peter chapter two it is important to consider and remind ourselves of those privileges, including your union with Christ, access to God, the priestly role, spiritual security,

election, dominion and inheritance. The implications of them all are staggering and should be a source of great joy and thanksgiving as you study them from God's Word.

- Thank God daily for the privilege of being His child. Ask Him to help you, regardless of your circumstances, to focus on God's glory and grace, allowing them to continually possess your mind and heart with praise and worship.
- Further reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9, 2:4-10

– Article submitted by Chuck Wetzel, 06.20.20