

## Priestly Qualifications and Responsibilities... Part 2

### New Testament Priesthood

Romans 15:4

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that through patience and through comfort of the scriptures we might have hope."

### New Testament Priesthood

- ▣ New High Priest. Hebrews 10:1-4; Psalms 110:1-4; Zechariah 6:12-13
- ▣ New Royal Priesthood. 1 Peter 2:5-9; Revelation 5:9-10

### Priesthood Of Christ Far Superior To That Of Aaron

- ▣ Melchizedek greater than Abraham. Hebrews 7:1-11
- ▣ Christ after the "*power of endless life*" not after "*law of carnal commandment*" Hebrews 7:16,23ff
- ▣ Christ's priesthood came by oath. Hebrews 7:21

### Priesthood Of Christ Far Superior To That Of Aaron

- ▣ Made the surety of a better covenant. Hebrews 7:22
- ▣ Continual High Priest. Heb. 7:26-8:1
- ▣ Continual mediation. Hebrews 7:23-24
- ▣ Tabernacle pitched by the Lord himself. Hebrews 8:2
- ▣ Established on better promises. Hebrews 8:6

### The Royal Priesthood

- ▣ New priesthood established. 1 Peter 2:5-9; Revelation 5:9-10
- ▣ All Christians are NT priests. We must be willing to accept the rites of consecration, qualifications and accomplish the duties of priesthood.

### Qualifications of Christ's Order

- Keep himself from all defilements. James 1:27; Matthew 15:10-20; 2 Corinthians 6:17-7:1; 1 Cor. 6:9-11
- Must form virtuous habits. Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Timothy 4:12
- Must serve in the strength of the whole man. cf. Rev. 3:16; Romans 12:1-2
  - No place for weakness or compromise.

### Obligations of Christ's Order

- Offer Sacrifices. 1 Peter 2:5; Romans 12:1; cf. Revelation 2:10
- Maintain the Sanctuary. cf. Malachi 2:1-3; Ephesians 4:1-3
- Teach the Law of Christ. 2 Timothy 4:2-4
  - Edification – Romans 14:19; Ephesians 4:14; Hebrews 5:12
  - Evangelism – 1 Timothy 3:15; cf. Mark 16:15

### Punishment For Priestly Failure

- Individual Consequences.
  - Condition of the priest who has not been faithful. 2 Peter 2:20-21; Hebrews 10:26-29; Revelation 20:12-15
- Collective Consequences.
  - Candlestick removed. cf. Revelation 2-3
  - Elders may lead others astray. Acts 20:28-30

### Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- *1 Timothy 1:3ff* - strife and questions follow such teaching.
- Paul warned the Ephesian elders, "*And from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.*" (Acts 20:30)
- Those who taught the Gentiles to be circumcised were "*subverting your souls.*" (cf. Acts 15:24)

### Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- Hymenaeus and Philetus erred, "*saying that the resurrection is past already, and overthrow the faith of some.*" (2 Timothy 2:14-18)
- Peter said of false teachers, "*And many shall follow their lascivious doings; by reason of whom the way of the truth shall be evil spoken of.*" (2 Peter 2:2)

### Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- Paul wrote, "*This I say, that no one may **delude** you with persuasiveness of speech.*" (Colossians 2:4)

Conclusion:

- We must ever strive to hold to the path mapped out by our great High Priest, and beware lest any man lead us into the forbidden ways of death and destruction.