

Priest

Hebrews 6:1 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God.

A brief overview of previous studies which will bring us to a study of our Priestly duties

1. God's exclusive way made known to mankind

1.A There's only one way to view life: that's God's way!

A1: John 14:6 (NKJV)

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

2. Salvation ?

2.A From a rudimentary level it means:

A1:

God has made known through the preservation of the Bible, there was a man named Jesus, who was actually more than a man, He was eternal God, who took on humanity (he became a man).

He did that for the purpose of entering into human history, going to the cross and dying as our substitute.

He paid for our sins.

A2:

If we believe that,

if we trust exclusively in Him as our Savior,

not adding anything else to it,

not thinking that if I believe in Jesus, go to church, engage in certain rituals, or get baptized or any other thing, that people tend to add to faith.

But if it is faith alone, and it is in Christ alone, then we have eternal salvation

At that instant we receive the imputation of righteousness, God declares us to be just.

We are regenerate, and we have this new life in Christ, old things have passed away, behold, all things are new.

The Bible doesn't tell us that we should look for an experience !!!

All these things that happen at the instant of salvation are non experiential.

There's no shaking, shuddering, warm feeling, slain in the spirit

A spiritual realization may occur

Though at the point of justification when we realize what Christ has done for us as an individual, an emotional response is not uncommon.

A3: Acts 8:26-40 (NKJV)

26 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert.

27 So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship.

28 was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet.

29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.

32 The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth."

34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?"

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more.

and he went on his way rejoicing.

40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.

A4. As a result, we are indwelt by God the Holy Spirit, and we have this new spiritual life that has to be nourished and developed over time.

2.A5. The only way we come to understand the dynamics of what occurred at salvation is to:

A5.1. Read the Bible, be taught the Bible and study the Scriptures, so that over time we come to understand everything that happened to us the point of salvation

A5.2. All the blessings of God are made available to us at salvation:

Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

2.B The blessings: understanding what they are and how to make use of them

B1: John 10:10 (NKJV)

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Sanctification

The abundant life is the exploitation of God's grace at salvation, it is learning the word of God and applying it to every dimension of life, so we can experience happiness piece enjoy that God has promised to every believer, while we live presently in the devil's world

Justification

C In previous studies we looked at confession of sin

1 John 1:9 (NKJV)

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Walking by the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Orienting to grace Orienting to doctrine Orienting to the authority of God:

1 Peter 5:5-11 (NKJV)

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you;

11 To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

D Those were some of the basics we looked at, that every believer must master in order to go on to Perfection / maturity

3. The Believer Priest:

3.A Every believer at the point of salvation becomes a Priest: one of his priestly duties is prayer

A1:

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)

9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

B Priest: definition = represents a portion of the human race to God, a priest represents someone or a group of people to God,

In contrast a profit represents God to man

3.C A priest is a mediator: a mediator is a go between, because the human race is at odds with God due to sin, a priest is needed to represent man.

According to Scripture this priest must be of the same nature as the one he represents:

C1: Hebrews 7:4-5 (NKJV)

4 Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils:

5 And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

Hebrews 7:14 (NKJV)

14 For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

Hebrews 7:28 (NKJV)

28 For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.

Hebrews 10:5 (NKJV)

5 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me; Hebrews 10:10-14 (NKJV).

10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.

13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

C2: 1 Timothy 2:5 (NKJV)

5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,