

The Lord Our Heritage

Godly Inheritance

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The LORD said to Aaron, "You will have no inheritance in their land, nor will you have any share among them; I am your share and your inheritance among the Israelites.

Numbers 18:20

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Numbers 18:20 (NIV)

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Sermon Series Thesis:

The Inheritance of God should drive the Christian to live building a legacy that imitates our creator.

Sermon Thesis:

As a Royal Priesthood and a Holy Nation are inheritance is not of this world.

Objectives:

- I. We are Priests, a Holy Nation
- II. No Inheritance in the Land
- III. The Lord is our Share

Introduction:

1 Peter 2:4–10 (NIV)

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a **holy priesthood**, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Considering the Godly Inheritance that is available to those who trust and obey, we must understand that our eternal reward is not of this world. There is a connection between the inheritances of the Levites in the O.T. and to us today. In the O.T. we see a shadow of things to come.

Colossians 2:17 (NIV)

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¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

Hebrews 10:1 (NIV)

¹ The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Our Inheritance is the Lord Himself.

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Sermon Outline:

I. We are Priests, a Holy Nation

A. We are a people who have been formed by God for His glory.

Isaiah 43:21 (NIV)

²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

Ephesians 1:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

B. A time did exist when we were not God’s children.

Romans 9:25–26 (NIV)

²⁵ As he says in Hosea: “I will call them ‘my people’ who are not my people; and I will call her ‘my loved one’ who is not my loved one,” ²⁶ and, “In the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘children of the living God.’ ”

C. Because we are His children we are to be Holy.

Leviticus 21:6 (NIV)

⁶ They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God. Because they present the food offerings to the LORD, the food of their God, they are to be holy.

Leviticus 21:8 (NIV)

⁸ Regard them as holy, because they offer up the food of your God. Consider them holy, because I the LORD am holy—I who make you holy.

D. As Priest we must be Holy.

1 Peter 1:15 (NIV)

¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

E. Be sure then you do what is required of you.

Ephesians 4:24 (NIV)

²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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Hebrews 8:5 (NIV)

⁵ They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

F. To be God's people you must follow God's plan.

As a Royal Priesthood and Holy Nation we are to imitate our creator, preparing for Heaven where our inheritance waits.

II. No Inheritance in the Land

A. Consider that Jesus did not setup a Kingdom here on earth therefore our inheritance will not be here on this earth.

John 18:36 (NIV)

³⁶ Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

B. Many have a hope of eternal earthly possession which will not come to pass.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

C. This world will pass away with its possessions there is no land inheritance for the faithful here on this earth.

2 Peter 3:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

2 Peter 3:12 (NIV)

¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

D. The Church today is not a matter of land acquisition, it is a Nation; a Kingdom; a Priesthood going beyond this world.

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Our Lord is Lord of Lords. Our King is King of Kings. Our Priesthood is led by a High Priest who remains forever in the likeness of Melchizedek.

III. The Lord is our Share

- A. God as an inheritance is all we need.
 - 1. He makes our destiny secure.
 - 2. In Him we have all things.

Psalms 16:5 (NIV)

⁵ LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.

Ezekiel 44:28–30 (NIV)

²⁸ "I am to be the only inheritance the priests have. You are to give them no possession in Israel; I will be their possession. ²⁹ They will eat the grain offerings, the sin offerings and the guilt offerings; and everything in Israel devoted to the LORD will belong to them. ³⁰ The best of all the firstfruits and of all your special gifts will belong to the priests. You are to give them the first portion of your ground meal so that a blessing may rest on your household.

- B. We need to see that God made provision to take care of the Priest's needs.
- C. Today is no different our God will provide for our needs as well.
- D. We do not need land to sustain us, we need God as our possession
- E. When it comes to our Heritage in the Lord, God has been most gracious.

2 Timothy 1:9 (NIV)

⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

- F. God has been gracious to us not limiting our reward to the here and now but into eternity.

Joshua 13:33 (NIV)

³³ But to the tribe of Levi, Moses had given no inheritance; the LORD, the God of Israel, is their inheritance, as he promised them.

- G. We are possessed by God that is why He is our possession.

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Conclusion:

Are you a part of this Royal Priesthood? Is your citizenship in this Holy Nation? Does your Heritage point to the Lord?

Those who have established a hope that ends in this world will miss the Heritage of God. Obey what He has commanded that you might become His child and offspring. Inherit that which cannot perish, spoil or fade. Do that which will go beyond this world and everything in it.

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Invitation:

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Luke 13:3 (NIV)

³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Acts 2:38 (NIV)

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

Suggested Song Selections:

"This World is not my Home"

"Trust and Obey"

"On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand"