



Understanding our Roles as

Kings & Priests

'But you are God's chosen treasure —priests who are kings, a spiritual "nation" set apart as God's devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and now he claims you as his very own. He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders throughout the world.' 1 Peter 2:9 TPT

As believers we constantly play a dual role – our spiritual role as priests and our earthly role as kings. Sometimes we may fall into the error of thinking spirituality is limited to being exercised or experienced only on designated days when we gather at a specific place (physically or online). But that's not how God designed it. Life is spiritual and so we must exercise our duality daily in our different spheres of influence. What are the rights and responsibilities you have as a priest? How do you exercise dominion as a king?

Stay connected this series as we go through these and we pray that the Holy Spirit will grant us revelation as He transforms and equips us to walk in the fullness of these roles.

Stay connected.



Day 1 Fueling the Fire

'And the fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be put out. And the priest shall burn wood on it every morning... A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out.' Leviticus 6:12-13

Imagine being friends with someone who only ever came to you for things and never spent time beyond dishing out their needs – that wouldn't make for a very fruitful friendship. No matter how much you may enjoy meeting that person's needs, there'll be so much about you the person won't know because he/she hasn't taken the time to find out and get to know you. In our role as priests to the Lord our primary responsibility is to spend time with Him in fellowship. This period isn't meant to be only for presenting a laundry list of issues to be resolved but of 'soaking' in His presence.

'And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
Matthew 25:8

Fire isn't designed to last in perpetuity on its own – it requires fuel to keep it going. For us to minister effectively to the Lord and keep His fire going strong in our lives, we need to spend time in His presence consistently – for example it's better to spend 30mins a day with the Lord than 2hrs straight just once a week. Consistency transforms us as time spent with God is like soaking a sponge in liquid. The longer the sponge is immersed in the liquid, the more it absorbs and the longer it will take to dry out. The more time we invest in being with the Lord, the more we take on His character, get His perspective and are better able to represent Him in our daily lives.

The foolish virgins couldn't light their lamps at the critical time because they hadn't invested in getting enough oil for their lamps which were drying out. Not investing in getting extra oil at the right time cost them dearly, which tells us how important it is to make sure we refresh our oil supply regularly in God's presence.

Prayer: Lord thank you for giving me access to minister to You. Please help me invest in my relationship with You daily so my oil never runs dry and the fire on my altar never goes out.



Day 2 Personal Consecration

Consecrate yourselves therefore.... Leviticus 20:7

Priesthood comes with certain lifestyle dos and don'ts attached – how we use our time, energy and resources – what we can also call our consecration. In the Old Testament the priests had specific things they should/shouldn't do which were critical to the Lord accepting their ministrations. In the New Testament, in addition to general requirements for the body of the Christ (1 Thess 5:22, Rom 8 & 2, etc) there will also be certain requirements for us as individuals.

'In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea' Matthew 3:1

'how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth... who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil...' Acts 10:38

John the Baptist began his ministry before Jesus functioning from the wilderness, eating locusts and wild honey and people came to meet him. Jesus on the other hand went from city to city, eating 'normal' food. Both ministries were important, preaching about the Kingdom, yet their personal requirements were different. This shows us that we desperately need the Holy Spirit to show us our own path so we don't get it wrong by copying another person. It's not necessarily about who came first but listening to what the Holy Spirit is saying concerning us specifically.

'I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.' Romans 12:1

Consecration is person specific – even if we and our closest friends became believers on the same day, the Lord may require different types of consecration from each of us. The reason for this is that our consecration is linked to our specific assignment, our journey with God and may change as we mature on the journey. This is why we need to hear for ourselves as what God is saying to others to may be very different from what He's saying to us – and we will be held accountable for what He's called us to, not others.

Prayer: Lord please show me my own consecration – how You would have me use the time, energy and resources You have given me. Show me how to be a living sacrifice for You.



Day 3

Living Sacrifice

'I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.' Romans 12:1

As priests we no longer need to bring animal sacrifices before the Lord as was done in the Old Testament because of the price Jesus paid for us. He paid for our lives with His own and by accepting Him as Lord, we are saying that he owns everything about us: what we do, say, where we go, who we become should all be based on His plans for us – so our lives have become a daily living sacrifice.

'You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name [as My representative] He may give to you. ' John 15:16 AMP

Jesus has paid the price for our sins, we now need to pay the price to partner with Him in expanding the frontiers of the kingdom in different fields – church, school, marketplace – wherever we have been planted we're there to make a difference for the kingdom. But we're not there as 'normal' people looking to just get by and make some money. Everyday we show up, we do so with the understanding that we are representatives of Jesus, therefore we're accountable to God for all we do with the resources He makes available to us to do our work effectively.

The demonstration of our priesthood in the marketplace isn't necessarily about physical demonstrations alone (such as Bibles on our desks, etc) but demonstrating the lifestyle of a priest and taking on priestly responsibilities for wherever we're placed. Imagine if every believer in our communities lived a godly, sacrificial life looking out for the benefit of others? Imagine if we as believers take spiritual responsibility and committed to consistently praying for the schools, businesses, leaders in our areas and back up our prayers with action inspired by the Holy Spirit? What a difference it would make.

Prayer: Lord help me always remember the priestly dimension to my life and help me to take spiritual responsibility for my immediate community.



Day 4

Ruling as A King

'Where the word of a king is, there is power...' Ecclesiastes 8:4

The first thing we must understand is that as kings we carry power, but our power isn't wielded by having a physical throne or a parliament. Our rulership is spiritual and we issue decrees by speaking the word of God. The two dimensions of king and priest continually come into play – as we perform our priestly responsibilities daily, we gain the strength, wisdom and understanding to function effectively as kings.

'Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.'
Proverbs 18:21

'and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus' Ephesians 2:6

As kings we occupy a spiritual position in heavenly places from where we are to determine what happens in the physical realm. Life shouldn't just happen to a king, kings are supposed to make things happen. We are supposed to take charge of each day and determine its course. As kings we must understand our spiritual lineage in Christ, our constitution (the Bible) and the powers we have available to us to deploy (God's principles and the weapons of our warfare).

Kings go to battle and we must understand that when we wage wars we don't do it in the natural but by taking spiritual positions and deploying the tools the King of kings has made available to us. We are authorized to take charge of our territories and deny enemies entrance into our space. We are also supposed to be mindful of our own personal space and who we let in as not just anyone should have access to the king's inner space. So we need to constantly lean on our priestly dimension to discern who we should allow to be our mentors, advisers and friends. We are kings, we reign and we rule according to the dictates of our heavenly kingdom.

Prayer: Lord I thank you for helping me realize that You have made me a king so I carry Your authority. You have given me the power to take charge of this natural realm so I don't have to be subject to circumstances. Help me to always remember that my words carry power so I am constantly decreeing Your truth and life into every situation I encounter.



Day 5

Warring as A King

“... at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him... David remained at Jerusalem.” 2 Samuel 11:1

Kings go to battle either to defend their existing territory or take new ones. Kingship isn't all about ease, there's an enemy always contending for what you have, and trying to limit you from going beyond where you are already in different areas - mental, physical, emotional, spiritual. However, even if the enemy tries to attack or resist us, we have supernatural reinforcement that we can tap into. As kings we have the right to determine what we allow into our domain (physical or spiritual) and take appropriate action against things that don't align.

“So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”” 2 Kings 6:16

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

Kings never go to battle alone, they always have troops that go with them. As in the natural, so in the spiritual. When we contend for or against something, we're backed up by the power in the word of God and the angels who execute His word (Heb 1:14). Our responsibility is to know what the word of God says because that's where our power is. The Bible tells us that the One in us is greater than anything we face so when we war, it should always be from the point of victory. Defeat is only certain when we don't fight for what God has given us. The enemy won't say he won't come against you because you're a king, but he will back down eventually when he sees you know who you are and your advantage. Wars are a part of life so we should not get careless and think because we may have won a few battles no more will come our way. Kings fight, but always from the position of having already won.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for the victory I already have in You which I enforce in every area of my life. I take authority over my territory and give the enemy no room to have a foothold in my life or anything that concerns me.

Day 6

Ruling with Excellence

'Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation.' Daniel 5:12

One of the things that should differentiate believers in the marketplace is our ability to consistently demonstrate excellence without compromising God's principles. Daniel was characterised by his excellence so even though he functioned in a foreign system with different principles, rather than blend in he stood out for good and had the attention of several kings. Joseph's diligence brought him to the attention of Potiphar, the jailer and finally pharaoh. David's excellence brought him to the attention of king Saul. These men understood how to dominate with excellence, and we can also.

'Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men.' Proverbs 22:29

Whatever grace the Lord gives us comes in the form of a seed which we must invest in watering and cultivating daily. Excellence is a trait that is cultivated by hard work and consistency - developing the right habits which become part of our character. It's a grace which manifests itself in our daily habits - those things we consistently do, not one-off flashes of brilliance. Day by day we allow the Lord to guide us and we also make the effort to discipline ourselves so we can execute what He instructs us to do with precision. In order to dominate we must also be ready to go the extra mile - not being satisfied with mediocrity. Burning the midnight oil when others are sleeping, committing to be and do our very best at all times. This is how we manifest our kingship.

Beyond the recognition, there's a blessing that comes with being excellent, especially with the things God has put in our hands. As the Lord sees our faithfulness in few things, He begins to entrust more to us, expanding our territories/spheres of influence. Could it be that we're not dominating because we haven't been diligent with what's already been put in our hands? How serious have we been about committing to demonstrating in our lives?

Prayer: Thank you Lord for showing me a key to rulership is excellence where you've placed me already. Help me Lord to pay the price to go the extra mile, not for the applause of men, but so you will be pleased with me and can trust me with more.

Day 7

God's Kingship Preparation

'So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!"' 1 Samuel 16:12

'David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.' 2 Samuel 5:4-5

It took almost 20 years from when David was anointed by Samuel to when he became king over all Israel. Why didn't he become king over all Israel shortly after he was anointed since this was God's plan from day one? This is because the Lord builds to last and character is more important to Him than accomplishments. 24 hours is too long a time for God to dramatically alter a person's story so when things seem not to be moving at our desired pace, we need to act as priests and check with the Lord to see if it's an attack of the enemy or if He's working something out within us.

'Forty years later, in the desert near Mount Sinai, an angel appeared to Moses in the flame of a burning bush....' Acts 7:30

No experience is wasted in God's preparation process. Even if things seem to be going slowly, there's a lot God is taking us through to prepare us to excel and rule effectively at the highest levels He's planned for us which we may not realize until we eventually get there. Moses grew up with pharaoh and knew the workings of the court, but God needed to work on Moses' character over a number of years to equip him to be used as Israel's deliverer. This doesn't mean we all need to wait for 20 or 40 years, the length of preparation is determined by the size/sensitivity of our assignment and our submission to the training. It also means we should never compare ourselves with others as our journeys and assignments will be very different.

Prayer: Lord thank you for preparing me to have lasting success as I rule in my assignment. Help me to discern what you're working out in me so I can cooperate with you during my training process. Help me to keep my eyes fixed on you and not compare myself to anyone else so I don't derail the process.

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