

A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION: 1 Peter 2:9-12

By Brett Baggett on Sunday, December 29th, 2019

Q. How are Christians to live in this world?

Q. How are those who have been commanded to be holy to live in a decidedly unholy society?

Q. How are those who have been Redeemed to worship the true God to live in a culture filled with idols?

1. WE MUST REMEMBER WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST (v.9a,11a)

- It will cost you to be a Christian. But this passage does not deal with what it costs. 1 Peter 2:9-12 tells us what it pays. To belong to Jesus pays far more than it costs.
- **ESV STUDY NOTE:** "Peter views the church as a new Israel, for he picks up what is said of Israel in Ex.19:5-6 and applies it to the church."

1) A Chosen Race (v.9a)

- **What?** (Eph. 1 "Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him, in love he predestined us for adoption as sons.")
- **Why?** (Duet. 7 "It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you...")
- **This is the single most pride-crushing doctrine in the Bible.** At the same time this is the most God-exalting doctrine in the Bible. Finally, this is the most assurance-producing doctrine in the Bible.

2) A Royal Priesthood (v.9a)

- **What?** (God bestows on us these high titles. *Royal* because we are adopted sons of God and citizens in his kingdom. *Priests* because we are filled by the Holy Spirit and offer God acceptable sacrifices of worship.)
- **Why?** (1 Peter 2:5 "you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.")

3) A Holy Nation (v.9a)

- **What?** (God has saved us to set us apart in holiness from the rest of the world.)
- **Why?** (To glorify Himself as He takes sinners and turns them into saints.)

4) A Purchased People (v.9a)

- **What?** (1 Cor. 6 "You are not your own. You were bought with a price...")
- **Why?** (Eph. 2:7 "so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.")
- **Calvin, in his commentary on 1 Peter, writes:** "How incomparable is God's goodness towards us; for he sanctifies us, who are by nature polluted; he chose us, when he could find nothing in us but filth and vileness; he makes his peculiar possession from worthless dregs; he confers the honour of the priesthood on the profane; he brings the vassals of Satan, of sin, and of death, to the enjoyment of royal liberty." - John Calvin, commentary on 1 Peter 2:9

5) Sojourners and Exiles (v.11a)

- **What?** (Philippians 3:19 "our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.")
- **Why?** (Hebrews 13:14 "For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.")

2. WE MUST REMEMBER WHO WE WERE IN ADAM (v.9b-10)

- 1) Once we were in darkness (v. 9b).
- 2) Once we were not a people (v. 10a).
- 3) Once we had not received mercy (v. 10b)

3. WE MUST REMEMBER WHY GOD SAVED US IN THE FIRST PLACE (v.9b,11,12)

- 1) God redeemed us to be Holy and Happy (v. 11)
- 2) God redeemed us to Reveal his Glory through us (v. 12)
- 3) God redeemed us to Proclaim His Excellencies (v. 9b) *evangelism and worship