

# The Priesthood of Believers

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Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:6

Jesus redeemed us by His blood to serve God as priests and mediate His presence to the nations.

The church continues the role of God's people that Israel as a nation failed to live.

- The Old Testament Priesthood Pointed to Christ:
  - Promise of a new priesthood implies imperfection of the old (Hebrews 7:11)
  - Priestly death required endless succession (Hebrews 7:23)
  - Priestly sin required daily sacrifices for priests' sin (Hebrews 7:27)
  - Promise of a New Covenant implies imperfection of the old (Hebrews 8:7)
  - Perpetual repetition of sacrifices implies imperfection of sacrifices (10:1-3)
  - Impossibility of animals to substitute for humans demanded a sufficient sacrifice (10:4)

# Believers as priests are called to serve God.

- 1 Peter 2:5 “. . . . to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”
- Romans 12:1 “living sacrifices”
- Hebrews 13:15-16 “such sacrifices are pleasing to God”

Believers as priests are called to mediate God's presence to the nations.

- Through faithful witness
- Through martyrdom
- Through prayer
- Result:
  - Judgment (Revelation 8:3-5)
  - Salvation (Revelation 22:17)

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!"  
And let the one who hears say, "Come!"  
And let the one who is thirsty come; let  
the one who desires take the water of life  
without price.

Revelation 22:17