

NOBILITY

When we think of this word, we think of Royalty and Kingdoms – we think of England and a few others today that still have and respect their Monarchs.

NOBILITY carries the air of superiority and respect – although many of the past have failed to uphold their noble position.

Kings and Queens are not elected by popular vote as our present day Presidents and Prime Ministers, but gain their positions of leadership by inheritance from their parents and grandparents. They are thought of as "Blue Bloods" because of their royal ancestry.

God led His chosen people by speaking through Prophets and Judges, but the masses of the people wanted their own way, and often went astray. They saw other nations with Kings and wanted a King they could see and approach physically – so God granted their desire (1 Samuel 8:6-22).

There were many Kings in the Old Testament – the most famous and prominent are David and Solomon. There were good Kings and bad Kings – some followed the leadership of God, and others went their own sinful way.

In the New Testament the children of God were under foreign rule and foreign leaders who were not kind to them. But then God sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to bring Salvation – IF -- they would accept Him, honor Him, and follow Him.

Again, the religious leaders of the day rejected Jesus because He did not fit into their own preconceived ideas and plans, *"He came to His own but His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the sons of God, even to those who believe in His name"* (John 1:11,12). God raised up those who would follow Jesus and His teachings and they spread out in every direction.

Let's look at each of these four items closer –

Not only did those who followed Jesus gain His forgiveness and His Righteousness, but they also gained prominence in the eyes of God. Just consider what the Apostle Peter penned in his First Epistle, *"You are a Chosen Generation, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation, a Peculiar People – (WHY) – that you may Proclaim the Praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His Marvelous Light"* (1 Peter 2:9).

A CHOSEN GENERATION – There have been over 80 generations since the time of Christ – each one Chosen by God to spread the Good News. We as Believers, in our generation, 2000 years later, are part of this Chosen group.

A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD – In the Old Testament there were Royals and Priests who ruled and lead the people. Today, we as Believers are a combination of both – a Royal Priesthood ordained by God to share the Gospel.

A HOLY NATION – The Israelites in the Old Testament were considered a Holy Nation – the people of God. Today all Believers are part of the Holy Nation of God – Jew and Gentile – when they put their trust in Jesus Christ. God is no respecter of persons.

A PECULIAR PEOPLE – Not Peculiar in being strange, but rather, different in that we Believe the Bible as the True Word of God – Old and New Testaments. Some translations refer to this as, "His own Special People."

The word "WHY" which we inserted in the above verse is to give special meaning to these four items – WHY are we Chosen, Royal, Holy, Special? Simply because we have accepted God's Gift of Grace and have been Born Again – are Saved by the Shed Blood of Christ on the Cross, to live the Victorious, Powerful and Abundant Life He intended for all of the human race before the fall of Adam and Eve. Now we carry this fall – called SIN – and there is only "One Way" for forgiveness. Jesus said He was the ONLY way to the Father (John 10:10) – and He gave His life for us – HALLELUJAH!

Now we can rejoice in the fact that God loves us so much He has entrusted to us the privilege of Sharing the Good News with others – GOD LOVES US!

Just before Jesus ascended into Heaven He said, "*You shall be Witnesses*" (Acts 1:8), and the duty of each of us is to pass out Gospel Literature, and to speak up and proclaim this Salvation that is available to all men, women and children.

BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST – AND YOU WILL BE SAVED"

(Acts 16:31).

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