

Date: **February 21, 2021**

Series: **Triumphant in Tribulation**

Title: **The Voice of Truth**

Scripture Text: **1 Peter 2:9-12**

Many times, as Christians, we may struggle with the question Moses asked when God called him to be the instrument for freeing the Hebrews from bondage in Egypt, “who am I?”. The text for today’s sermon helps us better understand who we are as God’s people. We are charged to listen to ‘the voice of truth’, which tells us that we are a *sacred people*, with a *sacred purpose*.

I. You are a Sacred People (1 Pet. 2:9-10)

This text uses four phrases to describe those who are God’s people: 1) *A chosen people* emphasizes God’s loving initiative in bringing people to himself and allowing us to be a part of his church. 2) *A royal priesthood* reminds us as believers that as priests we serve royalty. We are part of God’s “forever kingdom.” 3) *A holy nation* emphasizes that God has ‘set apart’ the church for his use and that individual believers have a valuable contribution to make to his church. 4) *A people for God’s own possession* emphasizes God’s ownership in our lives. Throughout history God has claimed for himself his own people as his prized possession. All four descriptions are a result of God’s mercy ([vs. 10](#)).

- **Why is it important to remember these four descriptions of God’s people?**
- **Describe how each description can affect how a Christian lives.**
- **How can remembering we are a *sacred people* affect our relationship with Christ?**
- **Peter contrasts his description of God’s people in [vs. 9](#) with those who disobey His word in [vs. 8b](#). How can living as *sacred people* help us obey God’s word?**

II. You Have a Sacred Purpose (1 Pet. 2:9b, 11-12)

Peter refers to his readers as strangers and exiles. Christians must remember they are in the world, but not of it ([John 17:14-15](#)). We are temporary residents in a world that is not our home, for our true homeland is heaven. As a result, we are called to be *internally pure* (“abstain from sinful desires that wage war against the soul”) and *externally pure* (“they will observe your good works and will glorify God”).

- **How are we, as a *sacred people*, to respond, as described in vs. 9b?**
 - **How quick are you to praise God?**
 - **Why is it important to give Him credit for who we are?**
 - **How can praising Him affect others we encounter?**
- **What are some things you can do to develop internal purity?**
- **How can practicing internal purity support external purity?**
- **What are the results of external purity?**

Take a moment to pause and thank God, that as a Christian, you are sacred and valued to Him, praise Him as His valued possession, and commit to abstaining from things that can hinder your relationship with Him, and to live a life that reflect Him to others.

If you have a need or a prayer request, contact the church office at [850.878.5503](tel:850.878.5503), office@morningsidetlh.org, or complete the [Prayer Request Form](#)