

THE NEW PRIESTHOOD

We cannot speak of redeeming the land without an effective priesthood.

Actually the only way we can rule here on earth is as priests, kingly-priests.

In fact it is the responsibility of the priesthood to distribute and release the resources of the land (The release of resources is a question of priesthood exercised by the church on behalf of the people and the land) **Jos 19:51; Jos14:1ff.**

Rev 5, 1 Pt 2:9, Ex 19:1-6

“Royal” in 1 Pt 2:9: Gk: basileus: Kingly in nature.

Definitions and functions of the Priest

Hebrews 5:1ff

To appreciate the power of the new priesthood it would be necessary to look a lot closer at what is referred here in vv 6 as the “order of Melchizedek.”

Gen 14:18ff, Ps 110, Heb 4, 5 & 6.

Heb 7:1ff

Vv 2- king of righteousness

Vv 2—king of peace

Vv 3—Carrying the nature of Jesus at a higher level

Allegiance to heaven, Alpha-Omega: operating a heavenly time-table

Ge 14:18 (Invoked blessing)

“ A blessing is an effective (Ge 9:25) and irrevocable (Ge 27:33; 48:18) word which when pronounced by a man, produces the effect which it expresses, since God confers the blessing (Ge 1:27, 28, 12:2, 28:3-4, Ps 67:1, 128:5).”

NB: cf. **Heb 7:7** “The lesser is blessed by the greater.”

This order of priesthood ensures that we, flowing from the powers of an indestructible life, are agents of divine blessings.

The New Priesthood effectively represents His interests here on earth

1 Sam 2:35ff, emphasize “faithful,” 1Jn 4:17

The implications of this are hearts that are incubators for his burden

Jer. 6:4, Num. 25:1ff, Mal 2:1-6 (Jer 23:18ff), Ps 106:19-30

Dt.33:9 Of demands on the priesthood touching consecration

Ex 19:5-6

We see here that God had originally intended for all Israel to function before him as priests. **In Dt 33/Ex 32:26ff, the Levites are separated for this dimension (Dt. 10:7ff**

1 Sam 2:12-36, 1 Sam 4:21

The real reason for the departure of the glory of God had to with the corruption of the priesthood.

Ezra 2:61-62 cf. Zech 3

Uncleanness, false alliances, etc. frustrates effective priesthood, the lack of which results in bondage, death.

Point worth noting:

The year of jubilee was preceded by a day of atonement, which is administered by the priest. **Lev. 25:8ff, cf. Isa. 61, of jubilee and the priest.**

Pertaining to the day of atonement: Lev. 16, Lev 23: 26ff

The Covenant of Priesthood

Neh. 13:22-31, Num 25: 1ff, Mal 2:4-8

Covenant refers to terms and agreements that secure a relationship

(cf. Jer 11:2,3ff, Jer 32:11), Jer. 34:18

In **Neh. 13:28-29**, “defiled priesthood,” because it is required in

Lev 21:13-15 that the (high) priest not marry a gentile.

Mal 2:4-8 reveals the terms and conditions securing the “covenant of priesthood:”

-Fear of God

-Righteousness in life and speech

-Revelation knowledge

-Accurate impartation of this

The result of this is “life and peace” in the nation.

Malachi accuses the priests for turning aside from this stipulation for bribery (**Mal 2:9, Lam 1:19**).

Num 25:7

This action of Phinehas comparable to **Ex 32:25-29** in relation to the apostasy of the golden calf

Isa 58, 61; dealing with desolations

Isa. 25, 14, Mt 16:11ff, Ob 21 Settling controversies and the challenge of hell against the victories of Jesus

Consecration and Dedication of the Priest

Zech 3, Ezk. 44, Ex 28-29, Lev 21, Lev 22:9

Kingly dimension of the New Priesthood

Zech 6:13, Heb 1:2-3, Eccl 8:4

NB: Drawing our kingly authority from His eternal priesthood.

A priesthood of all things as joint heirs with him