



Priesthood

Priesthood 5

Priests of God keep the Commandments of God, the way God instructs.

There are only 2 Commandments which all priests must keep. The first is, "Hear O Israel the Lord our God is one Lord, and you shall love God with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength". The second is, "To love your neighbour as yourself".

Mark 12:29-31 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

I pray we don't underestimate and undervalue the magnitude of what is being declared here. To not be able to keep the first Commandment is to not be able to keep the second.

Before we look at the loving element of the Commandment, there are certain aspects a kingdom priest must be made aware of in the Spirit, if they desire to be able to keep the Commandments of God, on which the whole Law and the prophets depend.

A kingdom priest must have lost their life for His sake, through the receiving of God's divine resurrectional power on the inside, which crucifies the "I" element in the soul of every person, known as "my will", before we can even attempt to love God and people as we are commanded.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

This reality is imperative for any kingdom priest to be able to keep the 2 Commandments of God. This divine work of the Spirit has us entering into the Sabbath Rest of God, where we become one with God, and we cease from our works. Our lives are hidden in Christ as the scriptures testify and we have a spiritual oneness or fellowship with the Father, Son and Spirit.

It is from this spiritual oneness which we now are able to hear His spiritual Word when spoken, which builds His eternal life within us, forming and deeply rooting incorruptible love, deep into our inner most being.

It is from this spiritual work being done within us, which we now look at the first of the Great Commandments. We are now divinely enabled and empowered to be able to love God with ALL of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

We are no longer trying to do this from our own strength, but through His divine re-rooting. We are now fully capable of keeping His first Command as His kingdom priests. We are able to minister to God primarily, the way God intends for us to minister to Him, from the heart, expressing our absolute undistracted devotion to the Lord.

Our worship to the Father is the laying down of our lives unto Him and Him alone, because we have through His

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power, come to know His divine and incorruptible love for us.

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

This is our new way of living and becomes all we know how to do. Our lives are laid down and are never taken back up again. They have been lost for the glory of our Father, to see Him glorified. This is what it is to be kingdom priests. Any less than this and we are not ministering as a kingdom priest.

The second aspect of loving the Father like this, as a kingdom priest, is the absolute conviction and commitment unto God, to prove His will, by the demonstration of our lives, and to see His will also established in the lives of others who are called and chosen.

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

This is how kingdom priests live their lives unto God, because they love God with ALL they are.

Questions

1. Why is it essential we lose our very lives we are born into by the power of God?
2. Why is the giving of your life so different from the losing of your life?
3. How would you describe what spiritually hearing the Word of God is?
4. Why is hearing and receiving the Word of God via the Spirit so vital in being and becoming a kingdom priest?
5. What are we being made aware of through this resource and what do we sense we need to do about this?