



Embracing the Presence of God



THE PRIESTHOOD OF GOD...HIS PEOPLE

Priests are allowed into the Presence and Service of God

- **Exodus 19:6 (AMP)** — And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation [consecrated, set apart to the worship of God].
- **1 Peter 2:9 (AMP)** — But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- **1 Peter 2:9 (TPT)** — But you are God's chosen treasure — priests who are kings, a spiritual "nation" set apart as God's devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and now he claims you as his very own. He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders throughout the world.

THE HOLY SPIRIT...WITH US & IN US

- **John 14:17 (NLT)** — He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

“it is best to interpret the promise that the Counsellor will ‘be in you’ to include an indwelling of individual believers as well as his presence among them as a group” (Tyndale NT Commentary)

- **John 16:7 (AMP)** — **7** However, I am telling you nothing but the truth when I say it is profitable (good, expedient, advantageous) for you that I go away. Because if I do not go away, the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengthenener, Standby) will not come to you [into close fellowship with you]; but if I go away, I will send Him to you [to be in close fellowship with you].

HOLY SPIRIT'S PRESENCE BRINGS HIS POWER

- **Luke 4:18 (NLT)** — “The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,
- **Acts 1:8 (NLT)** — But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
- **1 Thessalonians 1:5 (NLT)** — For when we brought you the Good News, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you full assurance that what we said was true. And you know of our concern for you from the way we lived when we were with you.

WHAT STOPS THE POWER?

- **Ephesians 4:30 (ESV)** — And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
 - Grieve: to make sad or feel sorrowful; cause sorrow or distress
 - Focus is on the issue of sin in thought, attitude or action (Eph 4:17-31)
- **1 Thessalonians 5:19 (ESV)** — Do not quench the Spirit.
 - Quench: Stifle as if putting out a fire; extinguish;
 - Stop the flow or extinguish the passion part of our walk with our God

OUR GOAL...INTIMACY & ENJOYMENT WITH OUR GOD

Philippians 3:7–11 (TPT) — **7** Yet all of the accomplishments that I once took credit for, I've now forsaken them and I regard it all as nothing compared to the delight of experiencing Jesus Christ as my Lord! **8** To truly know him meant letting go of everything from my past and throwing all my boasting on the garbage heap. It's all like a pile of manure to me now, so that I may be enriched in the reality of knowing Jesus Christ and embrace him as Lord in all of his greatness. **9** My passion is to be consumed with him and not clinging to my own "righteousness" based in keeping the written Law. My "righteousness" will be his, based on the faithfulness of Jesus Christ—the very righteousness that comes from God. **10** And I continually long to know the wonders of Jesus more fully and to experience the overflowing power of his resurrection working in me. I will be one with him in his sufferings and I will be one with him in his death. **11** Only then will I be able to experience complete oneness with him in his resurrection from the realm of death.

Ephesians 5:18–21 (TPT)

18 And don't get drunk with wine, which is rebellion; instead be filled with the fullness of the Holy Spirit. **19** And your hearts will overflow with a joyful song to the Lord Jehovah. Keep speaking to each other with words of Scripture, singing the Psalms with praises and spontaneous songs given by the Spirit! **20** Always give thanks to Father God for every person he brings into your life in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **21** And out of your reverence for Christ be supportive of each other in love.

Psalms 33:1–4 (NLT)

1 Let the godly sing for joy to the LORD; it is fitting for the pure to praise him. **2** Praise the LORD with melodies on the lyre; make music for him on the ten-stringed harp. **3** Sing a new song of praise to him; play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy. **4** For the word of the LORD holds true, and we can trust everything he does.