

YOU'RE SPECIAL
1 PETER 2:9-10 / 8-14-19 / WED

I. FIRST, WE ARE SPECIAL PEOPLE.

- A. Peter was a slow learner when it came to understanding that Gentiles, that is, the Church, are now part of God's chosen people.
1. He was reluctant to witness to Gentiles and God used a vision to teach him otherwise—Acts 10:15.
 2. He was even reluctant to fellowship with Gentiles and God used a personal rebuke from Paul to again teach him otherwise—Gal. 2:11-14.
 3. Now, however, Peter learned that Gentiles and Jews make up the Church—2:10a.

1 Peter 2:10b
...now you are the people of God...

- B. In verse 9, Peter uses four phrases to describe the benefits of being the Church of God.
1. First, Christians are a chosen people—9a—**“...you are a chosen people...”**
 - a. In the opening verse of this letter, Peter stressed election—1:1—**“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's elect”**.
 - b. Now he uses this same idea again to suggest not only do we choose God but He chooses us first—Eph. 1:4 and John 1:12.
 2. Second, Christians are a royal priesthood—9a—**“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood...”**
 - a. Peter probably had Exo. 19:6 in mind when he said this.
 - b. We saw in 2:5 this implies access to God and sacrifices toward God (worship and witness).
 3. Third, Christians are a holy nation—9a—**“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation...”**
 - a. “Holy” or “Hagious” in Greek means “different” or “special”.
 - b. Jesus reminds us that we are to be different—Matt. 5:13-16.

4. Fourth, Christians belong to God—9a—**“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession”**.
 - a. Often the value of a thing depends on who owned it.
 - b. We are valuable because we belong to God. Peter repeats this in verse 10.
 - c. We are also valuable because we received something of great value, God’s mercy—10b—**“...once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”**
 - d. Peter mentioned God’s mercy earlier--1:3.

II. SECOND, WE’RE NOT ONLY SPECIAL PEOPLE, WE HAVE A SPECIAL TASK.

- A. The task is that—v.9b--**that you may declare the praises of him...**
- B. This task is twofold-worship and witness.

III. THIRD, WE’RE NOT ONLY SPECIAL PEOPLE WITH A SPECIAL TASK, BUT WE NOW HAVE A SPECIAL STANDING—9c— who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

- A. Once we stood in darkness, spiritual darkness—Eph. 5:8 and John 1:5.
- B. Now, however, Christians stand in God’s wonderful light—9c and John 8:12.