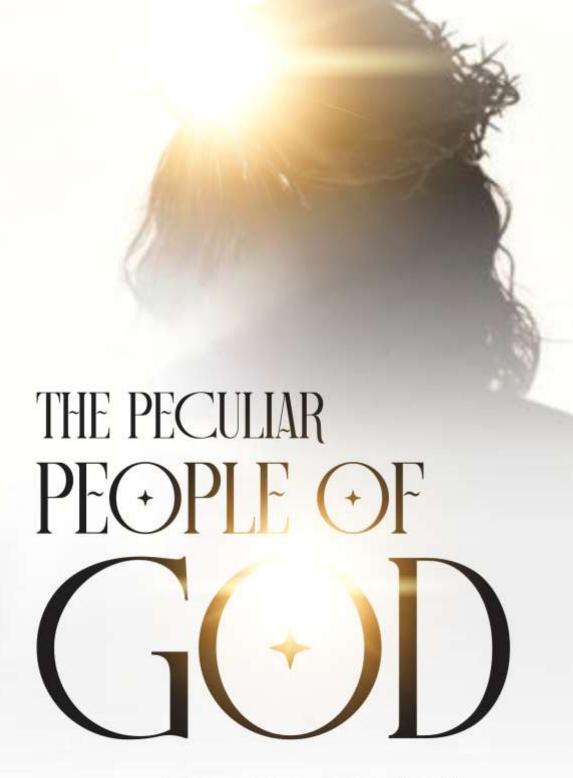
5TH ⊙CT



ICHA INNOCENT (MIN)

SERMON PREPARED AND DELIVERED DURING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT CHURCH OF CHRIST, #5 OWERRI STREET HIGH LEVEL MAKURDI BENUE STATE ON THE 12^{TH} OF OCTOBER, 2025

BY BROTHER ICHA INNOCENT (BISHOP)

THEME: THE PECULIAR PEOPLE OF GOD

TOPIC: THE ROYAL FAMILY WITH THE ROYAL LAW

TEXTS: JAMES 2:8; 1 PETER 2:9

INTRODUCTION

As believers, we are part of a royal family, chosen and called by God. Royalty implies dignity, worth, and a certain level of expectation. Yet, many may not understand what it means to live as royalty in God's kingdom.

Textual Reading

James 2:8 - "If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:"

1 Peter 2:9 - "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:."

MESSAGE DELIVERY

A. LIVING A ROYAL LIFE

As members of God's royal family, we are expected to live according to the royal law - loving our neighbors as ourselves. This means demonstrating God's love, compassion, and kindness to those around us.

Chosen by God: They are selected and set apart by God for a special purpose (1 Peter 2:9).

- 2. Royal Priesthood: They have a priestly role, mediating God's presence and will to others (1 Peter 2:9).
- 3. Holy Nation: They are called to live a life of holiness, separated from sin and dedicated to God (1 Peter 2:9).
- 4. Peculiar People: They are unique and distinct from the world, with a special identity and purpose (1 Peter 2:9).
- 5. Loving and Compassionate: They demonstrate God's love and compassion to others, fulfilling the royal law (James 2:8).
- 6. Obedient to God's Word: They submit to God's authority and live according to His commands.
- 7. Servant-Leaders: They serve others, putting their needs before their own, and lead by example.
- 8. Witnesses of God's Praises: They proclaim God's greatness and goodness, showcasing His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9)

B. CONSIDER WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR ROYALTY

We must recognize our royal status and live accordingly. This includes showing forth God's praises and living a life that reflects our position in Christ.

1. James 2:8 - "If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:"

This verse highlights the importance of loving one's neighbors, demonstrating compassion and kindness.

2. James 1:27 - "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

This passage shows the royal behavior of caring for the vulnerable and maintaining personal purity.

3. James 2:1-4 - James warns against showing favoritism, emphasizing the importance of treating all people with dignity and respect.

This demonstrates royal behavior of impartiality and fairness.

4. James 3:13-18 - James describes the wisdom from above, which is pure, peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated.

This passage highlights the royal behavior of humility, gentleness, and peacemaking.

C. KEEPING THE DIGNITY OF ROYAL STATUS

As a royal priesthood, we are called to maintain the dignity of our position. This involves living a life of holiness, obedience, and service to God and others.

The dignity of being a royal family, as described in the Bible, refers to the honor, prestige, and nobility that comes with being chosen and called by God. This dignity is rooted in several key aspects:

- 1. Divine Adoption: Believers are adopted into God's family, becoming His children and heirs (Romans 8:15-17, Galatians 4:5-7).
- 2. *Royal Priesthood*: As priests, believers have direct access to God and mediate His presence to others (1 Peter 2:9, Revelation 1:6).
- 3. Holy Nation: Believers are part of a holy nation, set apart for God's purposes and reflecting His character (1 Peter 2:9).
- 4. Inheritance: As heirs, believers inherit God's promises, including eternal life and glory (Romans 8:17, Titus 3:7).
- 5. Representation: Believers represent God's kingdom, showcasing His love, justice, and righteousness (Matthew 5:13-16).

This dignity brings responsibilities, such as living according to God's standards, demonstrating love and compassion, and proclaiming His greatness

CONCLUSION

As God's royal family, we have a responsibility to live according to the royal law, demonstrating love, compassion, and kindness to others. Let us strive to keep the dignity of our royal status, showing forth God's praises in all we do.