

After Darkness... Light

Marvelous Light

1 Peter 2:9-10

September 20, 2015

...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. -1 Peter 2:9

I. WHO AND WHAT

- Jesus is:
 - *A living stone rejected by men - 2:4
 - *Chosen by God and precious to him - 2:4
 - *The cornerstone - 2:6
 - *A rock of offense - 2:8
- Believers are:
 - *Living stones (like Jesus) - 2:5
 - *A spiritual house and a holy, royal priesthood - 2:5,9
 - *A chosen race - 2:9
 - *A holy nation - 2:9
 - *A people owned by God - 2:9-10
 - *A people who have received mercy - 2:10
 - *An extension of the nation of Israel (Ex. 19:5-6)
- Believers are to:
 - *Put away sinful attitudes - 2:1
 - *Develop a desire for God's word - 2:2
 - *Come to Jesus - 2:4
 - *Offer spiritual sacrifices to God through Christ - 2:5
 - *Proclaim the excellencies of God - 2:9
 - *Abstain from the passions of the flesh - 2:11
 - *Keep our conduct honorable - 2:12

II. WHY?

- We were once in darkness, now we live in the marvelous light of God (vs. 9; Eph. 5:8-14).
- We, like Israel, are formed to declare God's praise and to be a light to the nations (Isa. 43:21; 49:6).

KNOW: Those who believe are God's possession, and part of the purpose in our being such is so that we will in turn proclaim the excellencies of the God who has called us from darkness to light.

DO: Participate in the proclamation of God's excellencies.

Suggested Reading:

Let the Nations Rejoice! by John Piper

Out of the Saltshaker, by Rebecca Pippert

5P Evangelism, by Tony Guinn

The Gospel and Personal Evangelism, by Mark Dever

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read 1 Peter 2:9-10

1. Knowing what we know about ourselves from 1 Peter 2:9-10, why do you think many believers struggle with their self-worth?
2. What are the "excellencies" of God that we are to proclaim?
3. When you read "once you were not a people," what comes to your mind? What might the original (Gentile) hearers have thought about such a phrase?
4. Have some in your group share what their lives were like "in the darkness," and what they now are "in the light."
5. Peter says that "once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." Who receives God's mercy?
6. We talked Sunday about who Jesus is, who believers are, and what believers are to do from 1 Peter 2:1-10. It seems to be a progression - Jesus changes people who then do good works. Does it work that way? Does that mean we are saved by good works?
7. How can/will you put this passage into practice in your life?