

PRIESTS FOR THE NATIONS

*Orienting
Around the
Promises of God*

“Sense of Place”

*Lord will you at this time restore
the Kingdom to Israel?*

*She who is at Babylon, who is
likewise chosen, sends you
greetings.*

"Sense of Purpose"

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who are elect exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with blood. (1 Peter 1)

Sojourners

Divine Election

*According to the foreknowledge
of God the Father*

On PASSPORT

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*We're not home. We are aliens,
sojourners in a foreign country*

*Our passports are our only
connection with home*

In short: We're cultural outsiders

"Outsiders"

Different language and culture

In but not of the country

No rights or privileges as citizens

*A moment's rest in the
Consulate*

Then back out side

Sojourners

Divine Election

*According to the foreknowledge
of God the Father*

On PASSPORT

Of the Dispersion

Dispersion: Releasing the Power

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies it produces many seeds" (John 12).

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared with a man who sowed good seed in his field" (Matthew 13).

Dispersion: Releasing the Power

"All except the apostles were scattered (sown) . . ." (Acts 8:1-4).

Men and women are included.

All who were scattered evangelized

Dispersion: Releasing the Power

*Sown in the resurrection of the
Lord Jesus*

*Scattered (Acts 8:4,
11:19).*

*Resurrection power
(Acts 5)*

"Sense of Purpose"

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And for sprinkling with blood

Sealing the covenant of love for the nations (Exodus 24; Hebrews 9)

Consecrating a priesthood for the world (Exodus 19; Hebrews 9)

And for sprinkling with blood

*For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience for dead works to serve the living God. Hebrews 9.
(See also, 1 Peter 3:21.)*

The Covenant of Priests

"You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagle's wings and brought you to myself."

*Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine;
And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." (Ex 19)*

The Covenant of Priests

Saved from bondage in Egypt

*Saved for priestly service to the
world*

Priestly Heritage

"For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith" (Romans 4)

"Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage. . ."(Psalm 2)

"And you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God and they shall reign on the earth" (Revelation 5)

Priestly Struggles

The story of Jonah and Nineveh

A New Covenant (Jeremiah 31)

Jesus and the Sign of Jonah

A New Covenant for the Nations

Baptized as priests of our God

*For the **promise** is for you and for your children and for those far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself. (Acts 2)*

To whom was the Great Commission given?

Track the Spirit

A sacred trust

"But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me" (2 Timothy 1)

Does God trust us?