

Read and Know God's Word!

When God made a covenant with Abraham, He chose to be God to Abraham and his descendants (those who come to faith in God):

I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, **to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.** (Gen 17:7, NIV)

When one comes to faith in God, God expects that Believer to become a priest, a person knowledgeable of His word, and capable of teaching others. This point is emphasized in both the Old and New Testaments:

Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. **Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." (Ex 19:3-6, NIV)

But **you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession**, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Pet 2:9-10, NIV)

1. Carefully observe the apostle Paul's instruction and encouragement to pastor Timothy. List all the observations you see. While this occurred in the first century, does this apply today in the twenty first century?

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. (2 Tim 4:1-5, NIV)

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Teacher Notes

When God made a covenant with Abraham, He chose to be God to Abraham and his descendants (those who come to faith in God):

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Review with the student: God chose to be God to Abraham and Believers. God's choice of a person came after that person comes to faith. God did not make a covenant with Abraham that He would choose and determine who his descendants would be.

When one comes to faith in God, God expects that Believer to become a priest, a person knowledgeable of His word, and capable of teaching others. This point is emphasized in both the Old and New Testaments:

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Review with the student: faith is elective and conditioned on 1) a belief that the invisible God does really exist, and 2) place a trust in His words that engender an obedience. But only God determines who has a genuine faith in Him (Gen 15:6).

Those who become a descendant of Abraham, God has chosen to be their God. As God's chosen people, there is the expectation that all Believers should know God's word well enough to be a priest as part of His kingdom and holy nation.

1. Carefully observe the apostle Paul's instruction and encouragement to pastor Timothy. List all the observations you see. While this occurred in the first century, does this apply today in the twenty first century?

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Ask the student: what does the apostle Paul say about Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ will judge the living and the dead.

Ask the student: what does the apostle Paul instruct and encourage Timothy the priest? Discuss your observations!

Preach the word!

Be prepared to correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and careful instruction!

Don't be frustrated or angry and endure the hardship!

Fulfill your commitment to ministry!

Ask the student: what are Paul's observations of people? Discuss what this means.

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine.

Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Ask the student: how does this apply to you?