

February 28, 2021 - You Are...

WE who are in Christ are still the Church of the living, sovereign, omniscient and omnipotent One True God...

...and He is ready and able to see His Church through whatever may come to get us to that glorious future hope we have awaiting us with Him!

1 Peter 2:9-12

V.9 - "But YOU are..." - "But" refers back to unbelievers.

- "Chosen people" - God Himself personally and intentionally chose you, called you out of the world and set you apart for Himself...
...You are His highly valued treasure!

- "Royal priesthood" - We are kingdom people under the Lordship of our King Jesus...

...We are 'a body of priests,' given the privilege of worship, prayer, intercession, service and ministry as ambassadors for the Lord.

- "Holy nation" - We are set apart unto God (sanctified) as His treasured, unified people.

- "A people belonging to God" - God is our Master; we are His special and treasured possession.

- 1 Peter 1:18-19

- Titus 2:14

- That we may advertise to the world His great love, grace, and loving grace deeds - primarily the death and resurrection of Jesus...

...who went from light to darkness to bring us from darkness to light.

V.10 - We deserved God's worst possible judgment for our sin; instead, in God's mercy, Jesus took that...

...God has not given us what we deserve, but instead graced us through Christ Jesus to be 'God's people'.

V.11 - As His people, *IN* the world but not *OF* the world, we are to turn away from the sinful desires of the flesh...

...which war against who we are in Christ - people who are redeemed, sanctified, and washed clean.

V.12 - "Such good lives" - honorable conduct - godly lives, lives characterized by Christlikeness.

- In and around the "pagans" - unbelievers.

- If they are saved when God visits them, they will glorify God over the good works they had seen you do...

...Your honorable conduct and good works may eventually lead them to repentance and salvation at God's visitation.

YOU ARE... God's people; His instruments of praise, honorable living and service, love and graciousness to the yet unbelieving people around us.