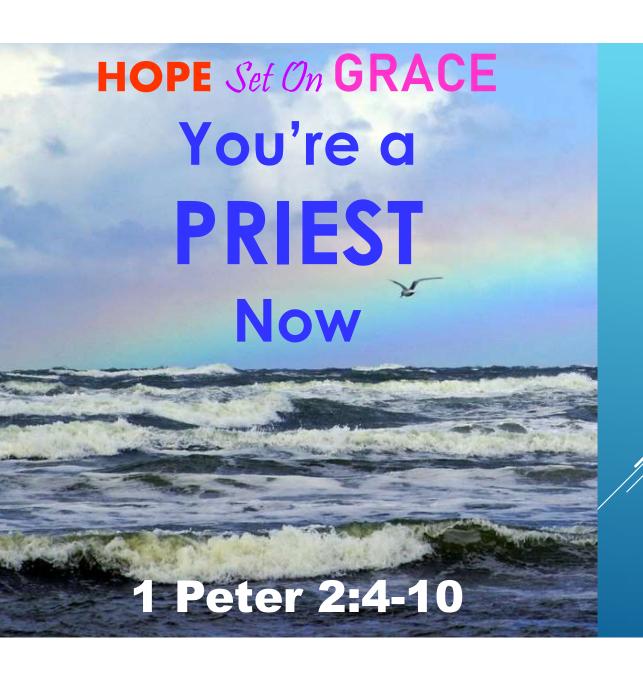
# Monthly Focus Verse

1 Peter 1:22 (ESV)

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,





Lesson Seven:

You're a
PRIEST
Now

1 Peter 2:4-10







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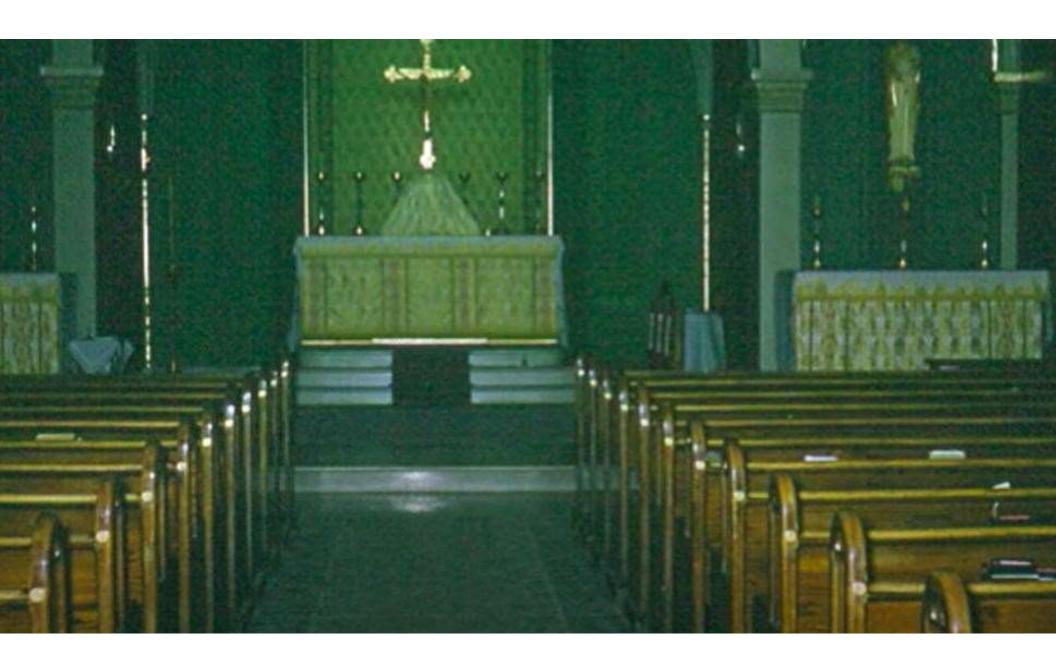
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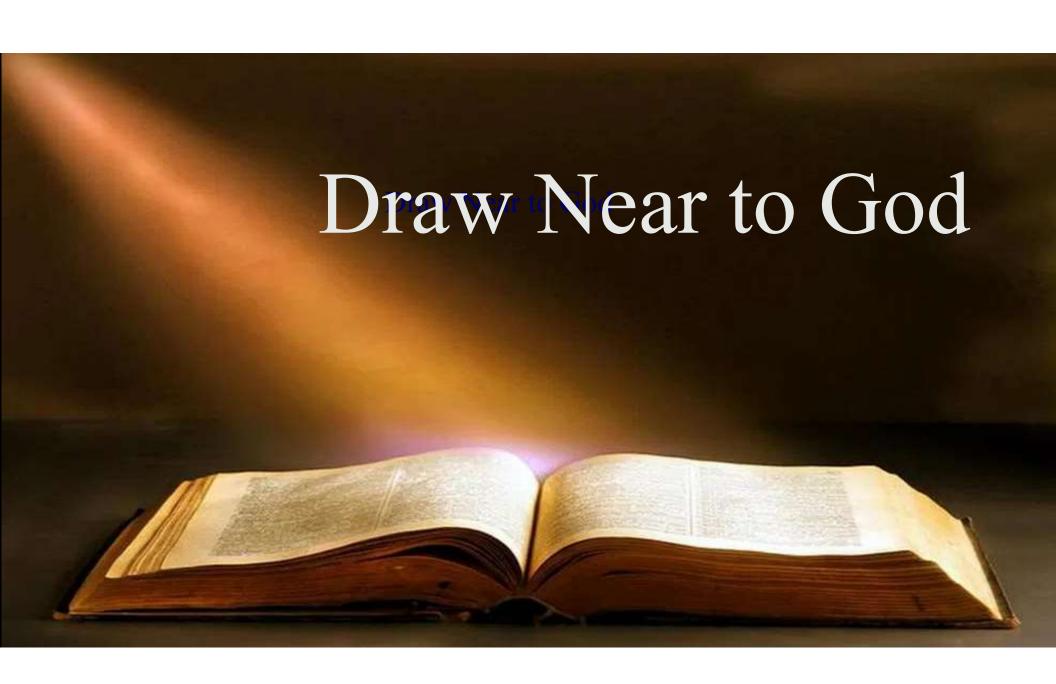
<sup>11</sup>And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup>so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. -- Ephesians 4:11-14

<sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, <sup>26f</sup>or then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

-- Hebrews 9:25-28

<sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**. <sup>11</sup>And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup>But when Christ had offered **for all time a single sacrifice for sins**, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup>waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. <sup>14</sup>For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

-- Hebrews 10:10-14



<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, **to be a holy priesthood**, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- 1 Peter 2:4-5

<sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," 8and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, **a royal** priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

From the Old Testament, what is a priest? What role does a priest play, based on the Old Testament?

Intermediary between people and God

 Advocate: Asking mercy - offering sacrifice - killing of animal / sprinkling of blood / grain offering / for himself as well as the people What is the significance of the priestly order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 7)?

- Jesus is compared ... Christ is without beginning or end ... greater than Abraham

#### What is meant by the priesthood of all believers? How are all believers priests?

- We all have direct access to God
- We offer our own sacrifice of praise
- We have the ability to pray for others
- In response to exclusiveness of priesthood / Reformation leaders

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  - -Called to pray (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

-- 1 Timothy 2:1-4

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    - Evangelism (Romans 15:15–16)

<sup>15</sup>But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God <sup>16</sup>to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the **priestly service of the gospel of God**, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

-- Romans 15:15-16

<sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, as Christ loved us and **gave himself up** for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. .

-- Ephesians 5:1-2

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<sup>13</sup>And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly." You have not kept the command of the Lord your God, with which he commanded you. For then the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. <sup>14</sup>But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you." -- 1 Samuel 13:8-14

40

<sup>17</sup>But Azariah the priest went in after him, with eighty priests of the Lord who were men of valor, <sup>18</sup>and they withstood King Uzziah and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary, for you have done wrong, and it will bring you no honor from the Lord God."

-- 2 Chronicles 26:17-18

<sup>1</sup>The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." <sup>2</sup>The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies! 3Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours. 4The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

-- Psalm 110:1-4

- Royal Priesthood: Kings and Priests
  - -Co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17)
  - -Judge the world (1 Corinthians 6:2-3)
  - -Engage in spiritual warfare (Matthew 16:18)
  - -Intercede for others (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

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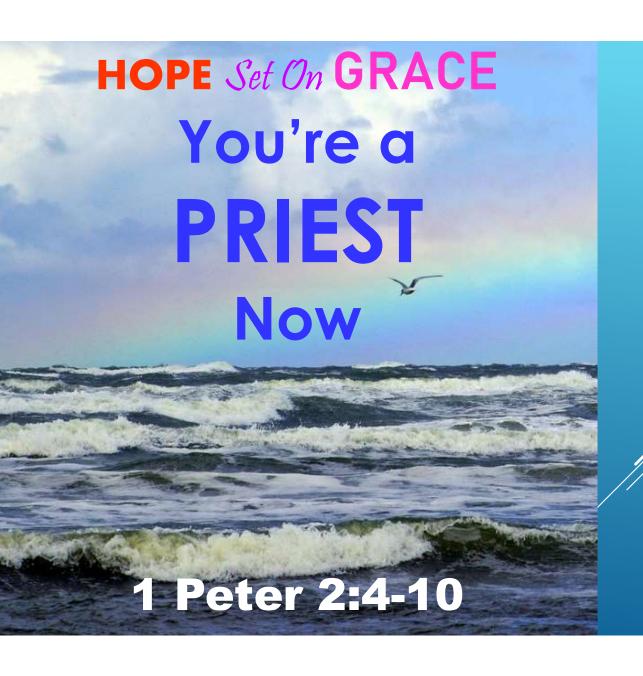
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