

CALLED A CHRISTIAN TO HIS PRAISE

- I. The significance.
 - A. Only God can give anyone the right to have this title (cf. I Peter 2:9 and Isaiah 43:21).
 - B. Man was created with a right to this office, but he lost it in the fall into sin.
 - C. What we lost, God restored in Jesus Christ, The office-bearer, Who served in our place.
 - 1. By His Spirit Jesus makes us partakers of His own anointing.
 - 2. Regenerating us, Jesus gave us the right, ability, and the will to be God's friend-servant in this world.
- II. Those given the right to the office have a three-fold calling to fulfill the office.
 - A. As prophets we are to confess His name by means of our words and deeds.
 - 1. A prophet is one who bubbles over, so filled that he has to speak out.
 - 2. As Christians we confess Him objectively, declaring and defending the truth of the Scriptures.
 - 3. And we confess Him subjectively, as our personal Savior.
 - B. As priests we are to present ourselves as living sacrifices of thankfulness.
 - 1. It is a dedication of our whole life in self-sacrificing love to God and to our neighbor.
 - 2. The right motive is only thankfulness for receiving freely the unspeakable gift of salvation.
 - C. As kings we are to fight against sin and Satan in this life, and later reign with Him eternally.
 - 1. While on earth our kingship is exercised mostly in our having the ability to fight against sin (Eph. 6:12-19).
 - 2. Later we will reign with Christ in heaven.
 - D. Do you have the name "Christian" - it is a mere formality or a reality ?