Intro:
- Who are we in the world? What good is my life producing?
- Jesus is both King and Priest (high priest)
  - hence, He makes us (His brethren) both kings and priests, as Christians
  - analogy of who we are and what we do in the world, and in the kingdom

- lesson: explore the significance of reigning with Christ, made kings and priests unto God

Kings and priests / kingdom and priests – two ways of expressing what we are talking about – Greek words slightly different, translated “kingdom” (NASB) or “kings” (NKJV) – analogy
- NKJV - Rev. 1:6a kings and priests
  - word translated “king” (basileus) denotes a king
  - as Christians we are kings, royalty – by power of God, in Christ

- NASB - Rev. 1:6a kingdom and priests
  - word translated “kingdom” (basileia) denotes sovereignty, royal power, dominion

- 1 Pet. 2:9a we are a royal priesthood – kingly priest
  - word translated “royal” is an adjective of the noun basileus which is translated “king”
  - we are a kingly priesthood, a royal priesthood
  - we are royalty as priests of God – kings and priests / royal (kingly) priests

- 2 Tim. 2:12 we reign with Jesus – because of our fellowship with Him
  - kings reign, thus we are kings – Greek word also denotes honor bestowed upon us as upon Jesus
    - Rom. 8:17 fellow heirs with Christ – share with Christ – king, priest
    - Eph. 2:6; Col. 2:12-13 God raised us up and seated us with Christ in the heavenly places, when we were baptized into Christ
    - When are we made kings and priests? – baptized into Christ (Eph. 2:6; Col. 2:12-13)
      - Jesus is king and priest – we are raised by and seated with Him when baptized – made kings and priests

- NKJV - Rev. 5:10; 11:15 we reign on earth as kings with Jesus – individuals united together as one
  - NASB - Rev. 5:10 reign as a kingdom
  - our reign in given to us by the authority of Christ, therefore all that we do is Him harmony with His law

- Rev. 20:6 reign in heaven with Jesus during the millennium (1k years) prior to the judgment

- Rev. 22:5 reign with God and Christ at the throne of God for eternity, after judgment
  - kings (kingdom) for eternity
  - “they will reign” relates to the saints, see context “they” / “them” (vs. 4-5)

- either way we look at it, we are royalty as God’s children, reigning and serving as priests in His
**Significance of being a priest** - analogy of who we are and what we do in the world, and in the kingdom

- 1 Pet. 2:4-10 our priesthood. . . .
  - vs. 4-5 living stones, built up as a **spiritual house for a holy priesthood**, offer **spiritual sacrifices**
  - vs. 7 precious value
  - vs. 9 chosen race, royal priesthood (kingly priesthood), holy nation, God’s own possession
  - vs. 9 so we can proclaim the excellencies of God – work in the kingdom
  - vs. 10 people of God, receive mercy

- Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:15-16 as priests, we offer spiritual service, sacrifices, to God (1 Pet. 2:5)
  - illus.: Rom. 15:15-16 Paul’s work was like a priest, ministering as a priest of the gospel of God

- Rev. 7:13-14, 15, 16, 17 eternity, serve before the throne of God, blessed, Lamb our shepherd, eternal life – paint picture
  - different analogy: Jesus our shepherd, we are His sheep

- review: importance of being a priest
Significance of being a king - analogy of who we are and what we do in the world, and in the kingdom
- it denotes the honor God has bestowed upon us as His children
  - illus.: kings are the most honored among mortal man, even God commands us to give honor to them as is due (1 Pet. 2:17)
  - illus.: Jesus’ kingdom is a spiritual kingdom, where He is king, and all who are members of the kingdom reign with Him as kings
      - this is not possible in the physical kingdoms of men, where there is only one king at a time, it is only possible in the kingdom of Christ
  - Rev. 5:10; 20:6; 22:5 honor on earth and in heaven for eternity – before judgment in the millennium, after judgment for eternity at the throne of God – paint picture

- kings make proclamations which must be adhered to
  - illus.: kings make laws, and citizens must obey
      - some kings made laws in accordance with God’s commands
      - some made laws in accordance with their own opinions
  - we are kings, united together in a kingdom and united in Christ as one
      - we proclaim that which is right, by the authority of Almighty God, revealed in His word
  - illus.: we are The World’s Bible (#460) – paint picture
  - we proclaim Christ’s death every time we observe of the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 11:26)

- kings pass judgment
  - 1 Cor. 6:2-3 judge world and angels – paint picture
  - 1 Cor. 6:1, 4-7 thus we should not take brethren to courts of law, but rather let brethren (church) decide matter for us when we can’t come to an agreement with brethren
      - this is only possible when both parties are willing to be faithful to God and accept the judgment of brethren (church)
      - if the other party is not willing, we may have to resort to civil court because the other brother is unfaithful

- kings sit on a throne
  - Rev. 3:21 we sit with Jesus on the throne of God – Eph. 2:6 we sit with Jesus in the heavenly places – paint picture
  - Rev. 2:10b Jesus give us a crown – crowns worn by kings – Rev. 14:14 Jesus wearing crown in heaven
  - review: the importance of being kings
kings and priests / kingdom and priests

significance of being priest:
- chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, God’s own possession
- proclaim the excellencies of God
- people of God, receive mercy
- offer spiritual service, sacrifices, to God
- eternity, serve before the throne of God

significance of being a king:
- honor, for eternity
- make proclamation while on the earth
- pass judgment with Christ at the final judgment
- sit at the throne of God

Summary / Inv. – review above
- illus.: sometimes we talk about having a good self image
  - if we realize who we are, and what we are (kings, priests), we will not have a problem with a good self image
  - God has done so much for us we’ll be humble, though we’ve been elevated above all others who aren’t Christians, even above the angels (we will judge the angels)

- inv.: Christ Arose (#174), read vs. 3 and chorus, Jesus “lives forever with His saints to reign”
  - Rev. 2:10 Jesus wore a crown of thorns, so we could wear a crown in heaven for eternity with Him
  - Rev. 14:14 Jesus is crowned in heaven right now, and we will be crowned in heaven also