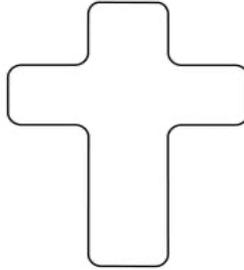




“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.”
Ephesians 1:3 (ESV)



“¹This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to **God’s chosen people** who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. ²God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. May God give you more and more grace and peace.” **1 Peter 1:1–2 (NLT)**

If I am a Christian, what then is my true identity?

1. If I am a Christian, then I am a chosen race .

1 Peter 2:4, 6; Col. 2:10; Is. 43:1-3, 20-21

“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.” 1 Peter 2:9

“**race**” here is used not to describe color, culture, nor claim of privilege, but instead our *collective purpose*

2. If I am a Christian, then I am a royal priest .

Romans 12:1-2

“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.” 1 Peter 2:9

3. If I a Christian, then I am holy .

1 Peter 1:2, 15; Mark 14:24; Ex. 19:6; Col. 1:14

“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.” 1 Peter 2:9

“**holy**” is not a status trophy, but a moral condition with an exalted purpose

4. If I am a Christian, then I am in God's tribe .

Mark 12:17; Acts 20:28; 2 Corinthians 6:16

“⁹But 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.” 1 Peter 2:9-10

5. If I am a Christian, then I am pitied by God .

Romans 5:8; 9:25-26; Hosea 1:6, 2:1, 23

“**mercy**” means I don't receive my just consequences

What then shall we do?

- If I am a Christian, then... *proclaim it with words & deeds*
1 Peter 2:9
- If I am not a Christian, then... *consider Christianity*
1 John 5:11-12

