



Use Your Double-Portion of spiritual authority

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people..."*

Words of Ministry

God calls us "a royal priesthood". This means that Christians are kings as well as priests under the king-priesthood of Jesus Christ. This is a unique distinction of the New Covenant. To have the office of both king AND priest never happened before in the history of God's people. In the Old Testament, kings and priests were two distinct groups, and distinct roles. You were either a king or priest, but not both at the same time.

Today, because we are in Christ, we are king-priests — a "royal priesthood". This means that we have a double portion of spiritual authority to live our lives as Christ's representatives. The fact that we are "kings" and that we are "priests" means that God has given us His authority to represent His interests before men (as kings) and before the presence of God (as priests). This means that our words carry spiritual authority when we pray, when we confront the powers of darkness and when we speak God's blessings into situations.

When you and I speak as "royal priests", we should not speak carelessly. We should speak in ways where our words represent Christ, represent His interests and carry spiritual effectiveness. We carry a double authority of speaking power because as kings, *"Where the word of a king is, there is power"* (Eccl. 8:4), and as priests, *"by their word every controversy and every assault shall be settled"* (Deut. 21:5). With these roles comes responsibility in our words.

When we speak to others, to ourselves or to God, we should remember that our words should be positive, truthful and reflective of the victory of Christ. We should not be found complaining, criticizing, spreading doubt or negativity. Priests speak only what God says and kings speak only what they want to be carried out and become law. Jesus said, *"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."*³⁵ *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.*³⁶ *But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.*³⁷ *For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned"* (Matt 12:34-37).

Just prior to these verses, Jesus spoke of the power of His kingdom and the power of the Spirit (Matt 12:28). He wants us to understand that as representatives of His kingdom we should speak as kings and priests who represent His throne, His victory and His salvation.

And as a king-priest the Lord expects you to take your role as His representative seriously. He wants you to walk in spiritual authority as a priest and speak God's blessings over His people. He wants you to walk in spiritual authority as a king and speak truth against the forces of darkness. It's when you and I take our place as royal priests and speak God's words that good things begin to happen in our lives and the lives of others.

When the devil comes to you and begins to lie, condemn and threaten you with fear remember that he is neither a king nor a priest. His words carry no authority other than the authority your fear gives them. But there IS power in your words. There is double power in your words because you are both a king and a priest in Christ, called to enforce the power of Christ's kingdom.

So use your double-portion speaking power and begin today using your words to do good. Speak God's word, speak His blessings, and speak to build up God's kingdom in your world.