

# Abundant Grace Bible Fellowship

*And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, Ephesians 3:9*

## 1 Peter 2:9 Does this verse teach:

1. We are God's chosen now, like Israel was God's chosen in the OT?
2. That we have taken the place of Israel?

**Background:** "Priesthood of the Believer" doctrine as taught in many churches today. (especially Baptist)

This doctrine is based almost entirely on 1 Pet 2:9

Tradition has it that Martin Luther was the first to start teaching the "priesthood of the believer"

Teachers have much to say about this doctrine but VERY few verses to prove it.

The torn veil is used to teach this concept.

**Concept:** OT priests are no longer needed because WE are ALL priests now.

**Use of the word:** Priest, Priests, Priest's, Priesthood,

In NT books other than Paul's 111 uses. In Paul's books 0 uses (common in Hebrews)

Use or Non-use of a word does not prove doctrine but it is telling and interesting.

Would not at least Romans or Ephesians mentioned such an important truth??

## What is the context of the book of 1 Peter?

1 Peter 1:1 Written to the "strangers" scattered.

Look at James 1:1 for one def. of "strangers"

Acts 8:1-4 The believers (little flock) in Jerusalem were scattered by Saul.

These were the Jews that had believed Jesus was the Messiah.

There are NO Christians yet in scripture! Acts 11:26, Saul was a teacher at Antioch.

Saul was not even saved yet in Acts 8. He was doing the persecuting.

Paul's use of the word (2X) is comparing us to Israel prior to the mystery being revealed. Eph 2:12, 19

1 Peter 1:5 "in the last time" We have a present possession of salvation.

1:13 "hope to the end" "is to be brought unto you" (sounds like Matt 24:13, Mk 13:13)

1:17 "work" "fear" Does this sound like grace?

1:23 "born again" Jn 3:3, Context of John CH 3 is not grace or to gentiles.

2:11-12 Middle wall is still up.

"in the day of visitation" Very interesting reference Peter uses. (Paul never uses the word)

Crf. Luke 19:41-44 "thou knewest not the time of thy visitation"

Crf. Luke 7:16 "God hath visited his people"

Crf. Luke 1:68 "for he hath visited and redeemed his people"

Crf. Micah 7:4 "thy visitation cometh" (vs 18-20)

Ps 80:14 "visit this vine"

These references help us to place the book of 1 Peter doctrinally and within the Acts period.

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Peter has not been instructed by Paul yet as to the mystery.

2 Peter 1:16, 3:9, 3:12, 3:14-16. Gal 2:7-9

1 Peter 4:7 “the end of all things is at hand”

4:12-13 “fiery trial which is to try you”

4:17 “judgement must begin at the house of God”

The Context of the book of 1 Peter is clear.

It has everything to do with Israel.

It does not belong to us doctrinally for today. Israel will need it during the tribulation!

## What is the context of this verse?

Vs 1-3 “tasted” 2 other uses like this in NT Crf. Hebrews 6:4-5

Crf. parable of the sower. Matt 13, Mark 4, Luke 8

MOST churches DO NOT teach eternal security. (They have plenty of verses to use)

Vs 4-9 Peter’s theological statement lining Jesus to OT prophecy.

Vs 4 Crf. Ps 118:22

Vs 5 Crf. Matt 10:6 “the house of Israel”

Ex 19:3-8 A specific promise to Israel.

Whose house is promised to be “an holy priesthood”???

Vs 6-7 Crf. Isaiah 28:14-17 “precious” “believeth”

“unto you which believe” Luke 12:32

Jesus separates believers and unbelievers throughout his ministry.

Vs 8 “Rock of offence” Isaiah 8:14, Romans 9:33.

They stumbled at the “word”

Jesus constantly referred to “the words” John 6:63, 68, 10:21, 14:10, 17:8,

“the word” use 44X in the Gospels,

Vs 9 “But **ye**” Who is the YE?? =The believers of verse 7.

“chosen generation” (43X in NT, Paul 1X) Crf. Matt 11:16, 15:45, 16:4, 17:17,

Luke 17:25, 21:32 Isaiah 53:8

“royal priesthood” See notes above on verse 5

“holy nation” Crf. Deut 14:6 “above all the nationss that are upon the earth” (only 2 uses in Bible)

“peculiar people” Crf. Ex 19:5, Deut 14:2, 26:18, Ps 135:4, (Paul Titus 2:14)

1 Peter 2:9 in no way belongs to us today doctrinally and in no way gives us the status of God’s chosen people now.

Nor does it teach that the body of Christ has taken the place of Israel. (It does show what Peter was expecting)