

impressive to note that the designation to the priestly office came from the Lord, himself. It should make an increasingly real grip on our lives to see that the calling of priest has been conferred by Divine appointment.

b. Perfection (2 Peter 1:1-3) Under the law of the Old Testament, the priest was as perfect in the bodily form as was possible. None of those chosen for the office could exhibit weakness or deformity. So in Christ we have all that is needed for life and godliness and stand in the sense of completeness or perfection.

c. Order (Hebrews 8) (10). The thrust is that it is a priesthood of order and arrangement, the Lord being the great high priest and the rest of us functionaries after the Divine will. There is nothing haphazard or artificial about this office.

d. Access (Hebrews 10) The position is characterized by continual access to the Father and the favor of the heavenly throne.

The priestly position is strikingly rich in both accomplishment and privilege. The believer in our age should reflect often on what it means to him to be a priest.

## 2. The character of the priestly practice.

What the priest does in this duty before God flows from what he is. If he were not already a priest he would have nothing to do in the work. But being a priest, there is a practice which should be true of his life and discharge of duty.

a. Offering spiritual sacrifices (Hebrews 13:15, 1 Peter 2:5) These would include praise, worship, giving of thanks, etc. It is with these things that our minds and activities are to be occupied. The priest serves the Lord...the Lord is well served with the sacrifices of the heart in this way.