

b. Testimony (1 Peter 2:9).."showing forth the praises of the one who has called us.." is the idea involved in the simple matter of testimony. The priest is a priest before God but his service is one of showing forth God's praise.

c. Cleanliness (1 Peter 2:11) As the celebrant in the Old Testament visited the laver on the way to the tabernacle, so the New Testament priest is to abstain from whatever hinders his holy performance or wars against his soul. We sometimes try to legislate in this area and do not have great success. The point is more likely to be achieved if and when the believer can see that he is a priest and that whatever works against that calling is wrong for his life and performance.

d. Occupation (1 Peter 2:12) The idea is to have the conduct of life occupied with the Lord and to show this in honesty and integrity among those who know him not. The priest is the privileged part of the Divine company and his character of walk should reflect the integrity of the Lord.

### C. Conclusion

So it is that the believer stands before the Lord as a priest. He needs to think very much of what that means and how his practice in the daily life declares what his station is.

## V. The Position and Practice of a Priest before Men.

Hebrews 13:15-16, etc.

### A. Introduction

As noted in the previous discussion, the believer is a priest. He stands before the Lord in that capacity and he stands that way before his fellow men. To see something of what is implied in that position we need to recall some of the functions of the Old Testament priests.