

I. The Church is a Holy Priesthood

1. Jesus Christ is the Holy High Priest ([Heb. 3:1](#), [7:26-28](#)).
2. Under the Old Law, the priests came from the tribe of Levi of the order of Aaron ([Heb. 7:5](#), [11](#)).
 - a. The priesthood has been changed and so has the law ([Heb. 7:12](#)).
3. Every Christian is not just a priest but must be a **holy** priest ([1 Pt. 2:5](#)).
 - a. This is contrary to Catholic teaching that only certain trained men can be priests.
 - b. Instead of fleshly sacrifices, the Christian offers **spiritual** sacrifices to God which is directly related to our worship ([Mt. 4:10](#); [Jn. 4:20-24](#); [Heb. 12:28](#); cf. [Php. 4:18](#); [Heb. 13:15-16](#)).

II. The Church is a Holy Nation

1. Israel of old was to be God's holy people ([Ex. 19:6](#)).
 - a. They often failed at this intent (cf. [Ex. 32](#)).
2. Today, God's holy people is the church ([1 Pt. 2:9](#)).
 - a. Which church? Just one ([Eph. 1:22-23](#), [4:4](#))!
 - b. The church of Christ is the Israel of God ([Gal. 6:16](#)).
3. The church has been called out of darkness and into Christ's marvellous light.
 - a. This demands holiness for light is set apart from darkness ([2 Cor. 6:14-7:1](#); cf. [Ezek. 22:26](#); [Lev. 10:8-11](#)).
 - b. Tragedy comes to those who go back to the darkness ([2 Pt. 2:20-22](#)).