

## THE CHURCH IN CULTURE I PETER 2:9-12

The Church is the visible expression of the Kingdom of God on earth, while we wait for the Kingdom of God to come on earth as it is in Heaven.

"When the world looks at the Church they should get a glimpse of the way things should be (the Kingdom of God)."



"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

"You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine..."

"...and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

"...and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

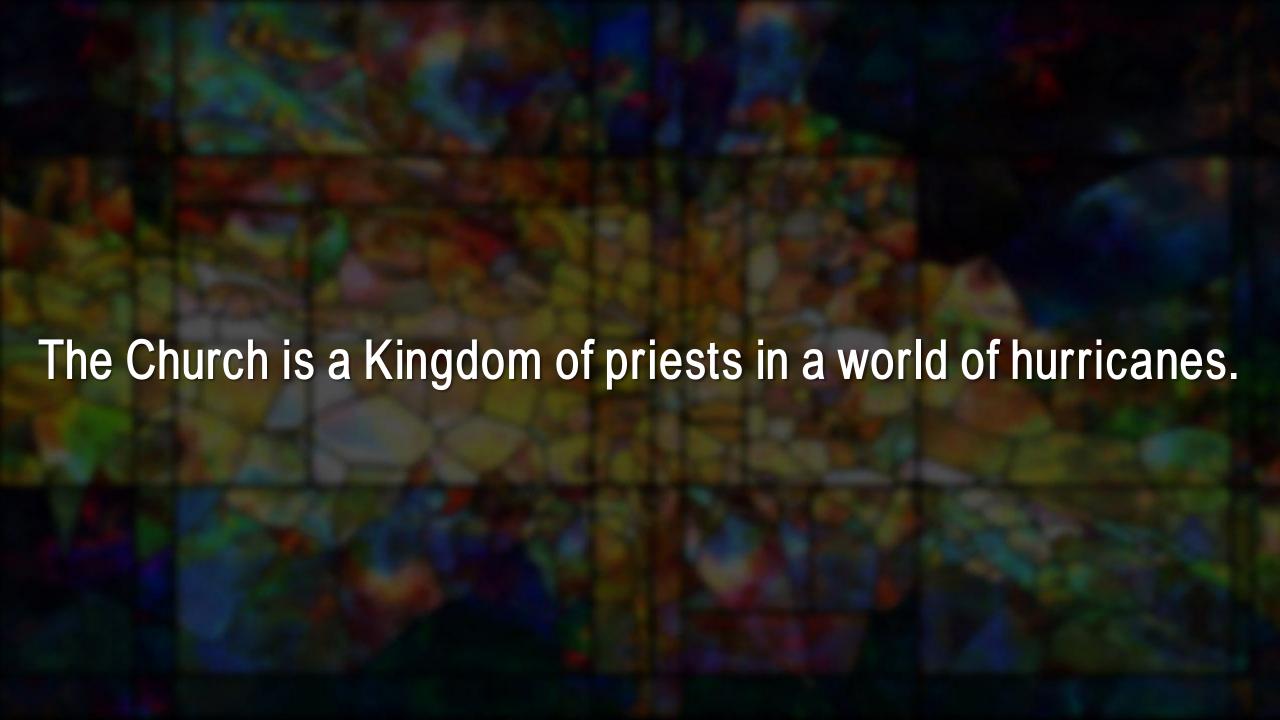
To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

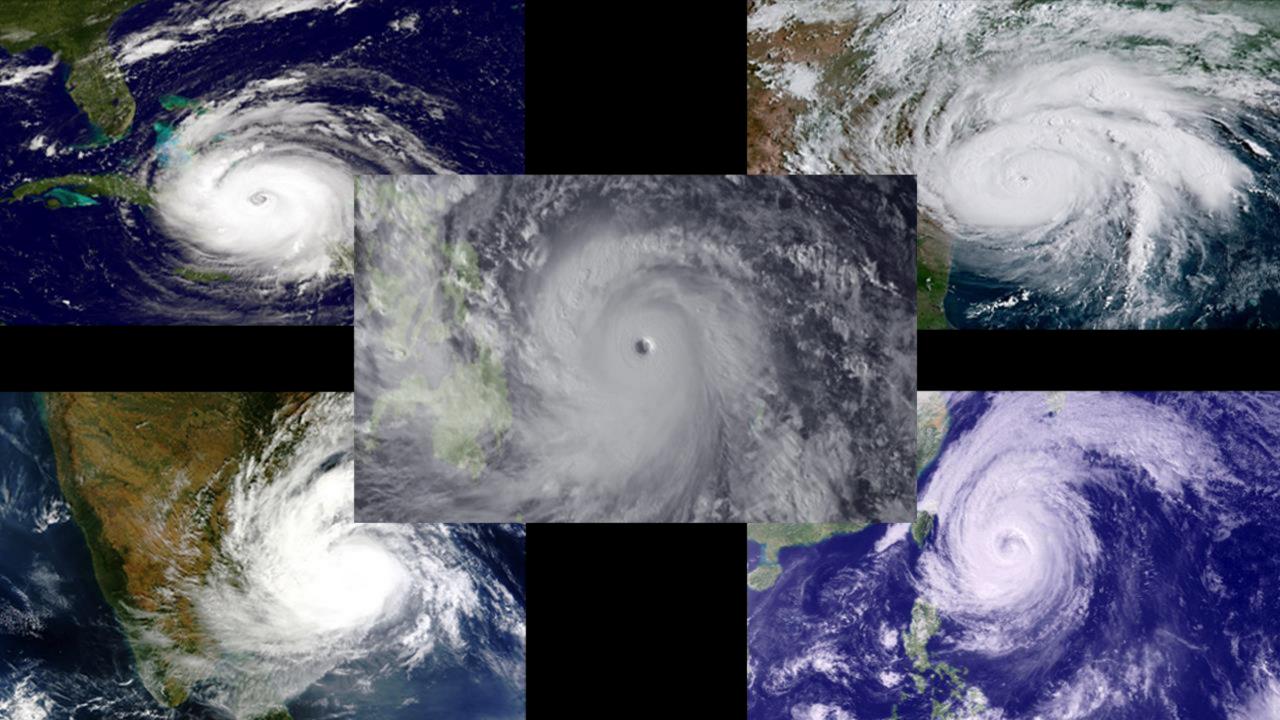
Amen."

"And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

The Church, through our worship and witness, co labor with Christ to reconcile people to God and one another, because Jesus is Lord.





"How I feel does not tell me who I am. Only God can tell me who I am, because he made me and takes care of me."

## ROSARIA BUTTERFIELD

Jesus came to a people who had brought tremendous calamity upon themselves and he laid his life down for them.

We are those people.

"Even as the Father sent me, so I send you."