

## 50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

### #38: “A Chosen Generation . . . peculiar people ”

---

Positional Truth #38 reveals the fact at the point of salvation the person becomes part of a chosen generation, a peculiar people. The term “peculiar” in the Greek is *peripoiesin* (περιποίησιν) and refers to “possession.” We belong to God—we were not called to be “peculiar” in the sense of oddballs or weirdos ready for the funny farm. Some seem to think that being some peculiar mystic is next to godliness—wrong! The truth is that we are a people of His own; we belong to God. And that is a tremendous blessing—not some odd characteristic !

**1 Peter 2:9** But you are a **chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a **peculiar people** (= for *God's* own possession), that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

As far as the chosen generation, the idea is of an elect race. Back in the Old Testament God chose Israel as His people. In a sense there are two elect or chosen groups of people: the elect nation of Israel and the elect church age believer. When Peter wrote this, the Christians were undergoing persecution throughout the Roman Empire and even beyond it. He is in effect saying that even though you certainly do not look like a special people who are chosen of God, you really are. The reality is that every person who comes to Christ becomes part of a chosen generation, just as the children of Israel were elected and chosen in the Old Testament. God has given believers special honors in the church age; the keys of the kingdom have now been given to the church as the chosen instrument to proclaim His grace in salvation. We, as church age believers, have that honor.

There are many attempts to identify certain people of this earth with the ten “lost” tribes of Israel—e.g., Mormons, Adventists, British-Israelitism—but the truth of the matter is that God has set aside the nation of Israel temporarily, and today God is doing a brand new thing through His church age believers. In the church age He calls out a chosen generation, a people for God’s own possession, from every tongue and nation, and people—both Jew and Gentile—and they are brought into a new relationship to God through Christ in the church. That’s grace!

God loved us when we did not love Him (1 John 4:10). To His own apostles, Jesus made it very clear that He chose them: “You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you” (John 15:16). Since God chose us, we have nothing to be proud about. Because God chose us, He is ultimately responsible for us. One of the most wonderful things in life is that all church age believers have been personally chosen of God. What a blessing to live in reality of that Bible doctrine under the illuminating ministry of the Holy Spirit. Again, how wonderful that God personally chose us!

In Christ,

Pastor Don