

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE  
**REDEEMED TO DECLARE GOD'S EXCELLENCIES**  
**1 Peter 2:9-10**

Here Peter speaks to Christian believers (1) about *who we are* by God's mercy and (2) God's purpose in making us His.

**1. What you once were: “not a people”**

- far from God and living in darkness (2:9,10)  
    see Ephesians 2:12, 4:17-19
- governed by sinful desires, indeed even dead in sin  
    – 1 Pet.1:14 (Eph.2:1-3)
- living a futile way of life – 1 Pet.1:18

What we deserve(d) is judgment on our sin, not mercy.

**2. Who you are now: “the people of God”**

A new identity given by God in Christ:

- HE called you from darkness to His marvelous light
- He poured out His mercy on you
  - through Christ's atoning death – 1:18f, 2:24f, 3:18
- He used His Word, the Gospel, to give you new birth (1:23-25).
- He has made you one with His ancient people (1:9) -
  - descriptors of Israel: *royal priesthood, holy nation, God's possession* (see Exodus 19:5,6), belong to you, fulfilling the promise of Hosea 1:10, 2:23)
- You are living stones in His Spirit-filled temple (2:5, Eph.2:20-22)

We are privileged by God's mercy to be His people, to be part of the ONE people of God through the ages, now called from every nation into His church.

**3. Why did God make you His people?**

**“to proclaim His excellencies”**

This purpose for our calling embraces at least two things:

**a. We are called together to worship God.**

*“a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”* – 2:5, see Heb. 13:15, 12:28f, 10:25, so also Eph.5:19f, Col.3:16

**b. We are called to *proclaim His excellencies to the world.***

This is the unifying theme of 2:11-3:17, which we START to look at this morning. To put the passage in a larger context:

- 1) The “Great Commission” (Matt. 28:18-20)
  - given 1<sup>st</sup> to the Apostles, and then to the whole church
- 2) The gifts of Christ by the Spirit for varied service in the church – Including gifts for the offices of evangelist & pastor/teacher  
    Eph.4:7-11, etc.
- 3) The 2-fold calling of *every believer* – 1 Peter 2:11-3:17:  
    in the way you live & in your words.