

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS
by
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A Peculiar People

*“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a PECULIAR people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy”
(I Peter 2:9-10).*

In reading this particular portion of scripture, I began to ponder the concept of being identified as a PECULIAR people, or person. If I was brought before a jury made up of various folks from every profession and description, could they find ENOUGH evidence, “without a reasonable doubt,” to judge me as being a PECULIAR person?

The word “Peculiar” is defined as: Different from the usual or normal. I am convinced that one who has been called of God out of darkness into the marvelous light of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, having been translated into the kingdom of God’s dear Son, is going to be identified as a PECULIAR person. “If any man be in Christ he has become a NEW creature.” (II Corin. 5:17) This NEW creature is not the norm and has been ushered into the kingdom of God by the supernatural operation of God’s sovereign, ever-ruling grace. These people to whom I am referencing are identified as Strangers, Pilgrims, and Sojourners, as well, in this time world. They are marching to a DIFFERENT drum beat, they hear the voice of the good Shepherd of which the worldling knows nothing. They have been given ears to hear the gospel of their salvation, whereas the worldling is deaf under depravity’s curse. These peculiar people have been given eyes to see by the miraculous vehicle of the faith of Christ, this glorious Saviour who bled and died on Calvary’s tree in their behalf.

Yea, beloved professor of such blessed hope, are you seen by the unregenerate people that you meander about daily as one who is PECULIAR? Can you laugh at the immoral jokes of the natural man’s humor as do others?

Does the vulgar, God-dishonoring language of the majority become an offence to your ears, are you vexed with the wickedness of this sin-dominated society? If these things are not offensive to you as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, then you ought to question what has been made PECULIAR in your nature since you have been called to believe. I, dear ones, ask myself these very questions, and am convinced that there is a part of me that hates sin and the and the influence of it's wickedness. There was a time when I loved sin and walked after it with a rebellious heart against those things that resembled God. There was no fear of God before my eyes, and my ears were deaf to the gospel trumpet. But, when grace came in its mighty power, it arrested me, it slew me prostrate before the Almighty to whom I was introduced. Sin was revealed as a vile poison to me and I begged for forgiveness, and repentance was granted this wretched sinner. Faith brought its perfect work, causing me to believe Jesus Christ was who the Scriptures says he is, and that God is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

I became PECULIAR through this supernatural experience, never to be the same. This was an experience that occurred 42 years ago in this man's heart and soul. I stand amazed day by day that I continue to believe in this Christ whom I have not seen with the physical eye, yet embrace him as my beloved Saviour! I often question how could this be, that one such as I could believe in this supernatural gospel GOOD NEWS?

I conclude; it was ALL by grace that this poor sinner was made to lay hold on such spiritual experience. It is ALL by grace that I was sought, and ALL by grace that I persevere, and it shall be ALL by grace that I arrive at that immortal place which God has prepared for they who love him. Oh! To be PECULIAR is my heart's desire, to be seen as STRANGE before a sin-cursed society, and be made to feel as a PILGRIM and SOJOURNER seeking another country whose builder and maker is God the Almighty!

O to Christ how great a debtor this poor needy sinner has been made to be. Grace, grace, free and sovereign grace is my plea, for ONLY grace could rescue one like me.

Respectfully submitted on this Lord's Day morn,

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