

Title: kings or criminals?
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Criminals turned kings

Revelation 1:6 *To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, ⁶ and has **made us kings and priests** to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

The Great Exchange

Seat of shame?

Ephesians 2:4–7 (NKJV) ⁴ *But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and **raised us up together**, and made **us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus....***

Dead in trespasses – we were **so corrupt**, so criminal that we **were dead**.
Are you taking up a seat of shame or a seat of sonship?

Our prayer lives will determine where we sit. A seat of shame or a seat of sonship. It's your choice.

Prayer is much more than asking things from God. *Prayer is the path* to the right hand of the Father. From there we reign and establish God's will on the earth.

Still acting like a criminal?

Mark 14:38 (NKJV) ³⁸ *Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*

The path to Gods' Presence

The earthly tabernacle was merely a copy... **Hebrews 8:5 (NKJV)** ⁵ *who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."*

- (1) **The Cross our context** (Bronze altar) – always start with thanking God for the cross. The context, the focus, everything Jesus did for us. We can be kings because He is the king of kings. He opened the door for us.

Psalms 65:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ *Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple. ⁵ By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas;*

- (2) **The Word that washes us** [Our humanity] (Bronze laver) – we look into the mirror and bring our hearts and lives before God. We cast our burdens off. We are washed with the word. The word brings cleansing and focus. We hold onto God's promises.

John 15:3 (NKJV) ³ *You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.*

Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV) ²⁶ *that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,*

(3) **The Spirit that empowers us** (Candle stick) – our Guide, our Helper, our illumination. Pray in the Spirit, by the leading of the Spirit and by the power of the Spirit.

(4) **Reminder for Relationships** (table of showbread) – pray for relationships, church, family, friends. Hold them all before God.

(5) **Worship our focus** (Altar of incense) – now worship God. Now magnify Him in word and song.... Step into another dimension.

Psalm 16:8 (NKJV) ⁸ *I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.*

- Worship in words. Worship with cd or instrument. But worship Him for who He is!
- Not a quiet time, but a worship time.

(6) **The Presence of God** (Holy of holies) – now you can truly step into God's presence and make your requests, but also declare, and shape the spiritual landscape.

Psalm 84:2 (NKJV) ² *My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*

Matthew 21:21 (NKJV) ²¹ *So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done.*

- Speak from this place, act like a king. You decree. Not only ask for, but speak with an authority that comes from above.
- Take up that seat of sonship, not shame.

Practical tips:

1. Plan to pray. Plan your quiet time. Set time aside, first thing in the morning.
2. Read scripture say in the evening and every scripture that speaks to you, that jumps up, write it down in a booklet. Next morning you pray through those scriptures.
3. As you walk through the tabernacle prayer.

You want to be a criminal or king? The choice is yours.