

The House of Worship Newsletter

1st Quarter 2019

Bishop Anthony Collins



Pastor's Corner

Part of The Divine Royal Family

In 1 Peter 2:9 the word of God tells us this: *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."*

There is a story about a king that had a son, but wanted more children. He wanted to share what he had with others. So he went to the local orphanage and asked that they bring all of the children together. Out of hundreds of children he picked one child, who was an infant. The king brought the child home and he and his son took care of the baby. Shortly after the adoption the king's enemy heard about it and came and stole the baby. The thief took the baby and raised it in poverty and slavery. The thief told the baby that it was the king's fault that the kidnapped child was in the predicament that it was in. This went on for years. Finally, when the child had grown up, the son of the king found out where the kidnapped child (now grown) was being held as a slave in poverty. The king's son went and rescued what the thief had stolen and brought the child home to their adopted father, the king. The son explained to the adopted child what really had happened; that the thief was a liar. That the king really loved them and that their father, the king, had made plans to share all that he had with them. The restored child was understandably overwhelmed by the immediate change in their circumstances.

This story is the story of us all that have believed in the saving power through grace of Jesus Christ's redemptive work upon the cross. Peter's description of us as written above is as overwhelming as it is true.

We, as children of God The Father, through faith in God The Son, having been adopted into The Divine Royal Family. This means that God chose you, He picked you, He wanted you – in spite of everything He knew about us, He chose us.

Not only did He choose us, but He made us part of His Divine Royal family. That means that we are divine royalty. Galatians 4:7 tells us that we are *"an heir of God through Christ."* That means that we are privileged and powerful, and that we walk in the favor of The Lord.

Peter goes on to say that we operate as priests, that we represent God. He says that we are holy, we are special, because everything that God owns is holy, special. This means that we belong to God, that we are set apart for His purpose – God has designed us with something special in mind.

The Apostle Peter also describes us as children of God as being peculiar. The world looks at disciples of Jesus Christ as being unusual, strange, and very odd. This is because unlike most people we take our instructions from a holy risen King, instead of the world that we live in. If as rescued, restored children of God we are not viewed as peculiar from time to time by the culture that we live in, there is most certainly something wrong.

Then finally, Peter gives us the purpose for our deliverance. The reason God chose us, and adopted us into the divine royal family, and made us representatives of Himself, and made us special, and reveals our peculiarity, is that we would praise Him for bringing us out of our bondage, slavery, and poverty. The reason that God did what He did is because He loves us, but also that we might tell others about His mighty works in our lives that they too might come to love Him.

You may say as a believer that you don't feel very divine or royal today. The good news is that it doesn't matter how you feel. It only matters what God has done. We encourage you to walk in your divine right, your divine wealth, and your divine intimacy with your heavenly Father. Blessed!

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Special Information

Sundays from
6:00pm-6:30 pm
Call and Pray

Mondays from
6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Hour of Prayer

Tuesdays from
10:00 am- Noon
Park and Pray

Wednesdays at
7:00 pm-Bible
Adventure Series

A Word from Our Sponsor

**LOOK
DEEPLY**

Old Covenant

He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.

[Deuteronomy 10:18-19](#)

The Hebrew word we translate as alien, foreigner, or stranger describes a person from another country who came to settle down and live. Abraham was a kind of alien in Hebron. Moses was an alien in Midian for 40 years, a refugee who fled from Egypt to save his life. And, as God points out in verse 19, the Israelites themselves were alien residents in Egypt for 400 years. Being an alien is part of the DNA of God's people both then and now. Although we live on this planet, we are not to put down roots here, for this world is not our home. God's people are all resident aliens. If anyone's prepared to fulfill the commandment from Deuteronomy 10:18-19, it's Americans—ourselves a blended nation of foreigners and refugees.

May we as believers discover the joy in the commandment "love those who are aliens."

New Covenant

Keep on loving each other as brothers. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

[Hebrews 13:1-2](#)

We consider ourselves good hosts if we invite friends over for a meal or take them out to a restaurant. But these commands refer to strangers. The author exhorts us not to "forget" or neglect this duty. We must not be inattentive to, neglect, overlook, or care nothing about hospitality.

Throughout the Old Testament, hospitality to strangers was considered a deep value. When Abraham is visited by three men, he exhorts them to stay long enough for him to prepare a meal for them (Genesis 18). For Abraham that means making bread, selecting a calf from the herd, butchering it, and preparing it. No microwave meal indeed! It turns out that the three men include Yahweh himself and two angels!

Is there openness in your heart today for "strangers?"

LIVE

JUSTLY

LOVE

RADICALLY

The Preacher's Prowl & the Deacon's Den

Minister Cindy Hairston

Storm Reflections

Isaiah 26:3, NIV – "You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you."

Storms are disruptive, and most are unexpected, often causing floods of anxiety. Although most people would choose to avoid storms altogether, life does not offer any of us this option. The question to ponder is this: How well are we dealing with the storms that we face?

Inevitably life's storms will evoke change. Although uncomfortable, storms need not be absent of peace. The presence of a storm does not denote the absence of God. As the prophet Isaiah said in verse three, God provides peace for us in the storm when we are committed to trusting Him. Whether forewarned or completely blindsided, change will discomfort us. During these times we will have the opportunity to operate in ways that honor God or methods that do not reflect His character. Our actions and reactions will display the truth of what we believe. In the midst of turbulence, what preserves us from complete panic is our relationship with God. Often on the stormy seas of life, we cannot see God with our senses. We must feel Him with our faith and remain steadfast in our belief, that God has a detailed plan for our lives. God is sovereign, and every storm has a purpose in His eyes. Our trust in God is the link to peaceful storm navigation. Maintaining an intimate relationship with God is essential to mastering the storms of life the way He intended. Choose not to be tossed by the waves of the sea, but weather your storms in ways that honor God. Trust His sovereignty, operate according to His will, and you will embody His peace. Allow God to move you to where he wants you to be. Weather your storms and reflect God's glory.

Ministry Highlights

Trustee Ministry: We thank God for our trustees that are currently serving at the House of Worship. Deacon John Burgess leads this ministry with a big assist from Ron Salva. Other Trustees include Mark Blevins, Bruce Jackson, Rodney Johnson, and Darius Patterson.

The main thrust of this ministry is the care of the physical property of the church. They are in charge of making sure that many things that you may never notice get done and on a timely basis. Things like guttering, pest control, cleaning, painting, lawn care, organizing and storage, to name a few.

Thanks to each of you as members of this wonderful church body that have come along side of the Trustees to make sure things are taken care of. While they have done a good job, they still need our help.

It is important that we work together as a family to make sure we are being good stewards of the resources that Christ has given us. Jesus has done and continues to do great things in and through us. Many thanks to our Trustees and to all those who help them get it done.



Upcoming Events

*Sunday, February 9 at midnight
40 Day Fast Ends

*Sunday, February 17 after service
Fellowship Dinner

*Saturday, March 23 from 9am-1pm
Church Beautification

*Sunday, March 31 at 2:00 pm
Water Angel Ministries Service

*Friday, April 19 at 7:00 pm
Good Friday Service

*Monday, April 29
Kingdom Men Community Service

A Time to Smile 😊 - A Time to Consider

The Seat Hog

A man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the posh theater. When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the man, "Sorry, sir, but you're only allowed one seat." The man groaned but didn't budge. The usher became impatient. "Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager." Again, the man just groaned, which infuriated the usher who turned and marched briskly back up the aisle in search of his manager.

In a few moments, both the usher and the manager returned and stood over the man. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move him, but with no success. Finally, they summoned the police. The cop surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "All right buddy, what's your name?" "Sam," the man moaned. "Where ya from, Sam?" With pain in his voice, Sam replied, "The balcony."

Beyond Excuses

"He who is good at making excuses is seldom good for anything else."

Company Laughter

Brother: "I think we have company downstairs." Sister: "How do you know that?"

Brother: "I just heard mom laugh at one of dad's jokes."



The House of Worship
190 Manhattan Avenue
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Phone:
(865) 272-3703

Fax:
(865)

E-mail:
mailatthehouse@gmail.com

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People**

We're on the Web!
www.TheHouseOfWorship.com

Prayer Requests & Praise Reports

Praise God for answering our prayers in regards to 1) Souls continuing to be won for Christ, 2) the 54 Angel Tree children that the church blessed over the Christmas holiday, and 3) For the \$70,000 we have raised (including pledges) for the "Ninos Para Cristo" home for homeless children in Mexico.

We pray for: 1) the spirit of evangelism to attach itself to The H.O.W. so that we might win 100 souls for Christ in 2019, 2) our children for protection against our enemy, 3) our young adults that Christ would make Himself their #1 affection, 4) us to raise the additional funds to build the "Ninos Para Cristo" home for homeless children in Mexico, 5) Jesus to hasten the manifestation of His promises for The H.O.W., 6) the resources to plant another church in the Knoxville, TN area, 6) those that are connected and engaged to this ministry to have great abundance in their lives, and 7) Christ's will to be done in us and through us.

Member Highlight

Willie & Heather Hunter

After a simple Google search of small, diverse churches in Tennessee, we found The House of Worship. We watched several sermons online and prayed, stepping out on faith and moving to Oak Ridge about a year ago. We had mostly attended very large churches and became very stagnant in our spiritual growth, often feeling like we were just a number in a room full of strangers. Here at The House of Worship everyone is so welcoming and genuine. We feel like family is all around us. It has been life changing. Bishop and Minister Collins share the true word of God. Each Sunday the Spirit of God is moving. Every fellowship outing and group meeting we attend is uplifting, encouraging, and inspiring. We whole heartedly believe God led us to The House of Worship.

The House of Worship
190 Manhattan Avenue
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

"A Place for All People"

