

## “WE ARE OF GOD”

### INTRODUCTION

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:19-20**

We who are of God are described in various ways throughout the New Testament.

**B. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:9**

It is quite the honor to be God's *“own special people.”*

### I. WE ARE PRIESTS

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:5; Hebrews 7:12**

Under a New Law, with Christ as High Priest, all His people are priests and we offer sacrifices accordingly.

**B. Romans 12:2**

The sacrifice we offer is our very selves!

### II. WE ARE SAINTS

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:2**

Saints are, by definition, sanctified persons. These are not dead people, beatified by the pope and depicted artistically with halos. Rather, they are people who are separate from the world. That's what sanctification is – separation.

**B. Ephesians 5:3-17**

There is behavior that is fitting for saints and behavior that is not.

### III. WE ARE PILGRIMS

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:11-12**

Similar to the notion of sainthood is being a pilgrim. It means we are visitors to this world, not permanent residents. We are different than those around us.

**B. Hebrews 11:13-16**

As pilgrims, we acknowledge we are on our way home to receive a better country.

**IV. WE ARE SOLDIERS**

**A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:3-4**

Two facts of soldiering are mentioned here:

1. We must expect hardship. Persecution and sacrifice for Christ are predictable.
2. We must disentangle ourselves from civilian life. Military personnel must do so during basic training and while on deployment and Christians, being saints and pilgrims, do likewise.

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 10:4-5; Ephesians 6:10-17**

We are not fighting flesh and blood enemies, but arguments and thoughts. We defend our hearts, minds, and everything about ourselves with righteousness, salvation, and truth. We oppose the enemy using God's word alone!

**V. WE ARE SHEEP**

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:25**

If Jesus is the Shepherd, then we are His sheep. We are lost whenever we stray from Him.

**B. Psalm 23**

The comfort of the Shepherd is His rod and His staff, which He uses to fend off wolves and to keep us in the fold. Discipline – boundaries and the like – are comforting!

**VI. WE ARE DISCIPLES**

**A. Matthew 28:18-20**

We should be made disciples, baptized, and continue to learn from there. To be a disciple means we are learners, we are followers. We depend on the Master.

**B. Matthew 10:24-25**

We will never be better than Jesus, but our goal is to be like Him!

**VII. WE ARE CHRISTIANS**

**A. Acts 11:26**

Disciples of Christ are known, correctly, as Christians. That word is never used in Scripture as an adjective, describing things, but as a noun, identifying a person who is in Christ.

**B. Galatians 3:27**

To be in Christ, one must put Him on in baptism!