

MINISTERING TO THE LORD
MARCH 13, 2024

DEUT 10:8, IS. 43:6-7, 21

In the Old Testament, the tribe of Levi was separated to bear the presence of God, and to stand before the Lord to minister to Him and to bless His Name.

1 PET. 2:9

In the New Testament, all believers are God's priests and are to bear His presence, stand before Him, to minister to Him, and bless His Name.

Created by Him and for Him

PS. 100:1-3 God created us for Himself, for His pleasure.

REV 4:11 He is worthy to receive our worship because He made us.

PS. 150:6 If we have breath, we are to praise Him with it.

Our Threefold Ministry

- 1.) To the Lord; **2** – To the saints; **3** - To the world. Our ministry to the Lord comes first (**ACTS 13:1-3**). All three are represented here.

Ministering to the Lord

- 1.) Involves Praise: **HEB. 13:15** Praise involves responding to God for what He's done. It involves boasting on Him.
 - A.) **PS. 150** Who? The Lord; Where? His sanctuary; For what? His mighty acts and greatness; How? All instruments of worship and all our breath.
- 2.) Involves worship: **PS. 96:8-9 NLT** Worship centers on God's person, on who He is.
 - A.) **1 CHRON. 16:29** Worship involves giving something to God.
 - B.) Isaiah was prompted by experiencing the holiness of God.
- 3.) Involves Communion: **IS. 40:27-31 MSG** Wait means to bind together by twisting. An exchange takes place.
 - A.) Upward Flow – Praise, worship, communion.
 - B.) Inward Flow – Grace, mercy, strength.
 - C.) Outward Flow – Life flowing out from us.

EZ. 44:10-16 NIV

These Levites put ministering to people above God and were punished for doing so. The Zadok Levites put God first and were granted close access to God. Zadok means righteous.