"WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE"?

I. INTRODUCTION.

- a. Illustration.
- b. BIBLE READING: I PETER 2:1-10
- c. Purpose: Examine God's Word to seek an answer to the question—"Who do you think you are?"
- d. Background:
 - i. I Peter 2:1-3—the growth essential for the Christian.
 - ii. I Peter 2:4, 6-8—Christ is emphasized as the chief cornerstone of the foundation upon which the Christian's life is to be built.
 - iii. I Peter 2:8—to those who stumble and are disobedient, Christ is a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.

II. LESSON: "WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?"

- a. As Christians, we are a "chosen race".
 - i. Under Old Covenant—people of Israel were God's special people.
 - 1. Isaiah 43:21—". I formed for myself".
 - 2. Ex. 19:4-6—"... a peculiar treasure unto me above all people."
 - ii. Definitions: (1) "chosen" = "selected to obtain salvation through our hearing and obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ, acting on our faith (Rom. 10:17). (2) "race" = "a family, stock kindred, offspring".
- b. As Christians, we are a "royal priesthood".
 - i. A priest has access to God.
 - ii. To Christians, being a "priest" is both a privilege and a responsibility.
- c. As Christians, we are a "holy nation".
 - i. The word holy (hagios) means "different, set apart and implies separation".
 - ii. "Holy nation" means a "set apart people—God's people separated to serve God's purpose".
- d. As Christian's, we are God's "own people" ("a people for God's own Possession").
 - i. Our purpose as Christians is to function as God's representatives.
 - ii. Since we are "bought with a price"—we are to glorify God. (I Cor. 6:20)
 - iii. Comments from William Barclay.

III. CONCLUSION.

- a. Summary: As Christians, we are
 - i. "A CHOSEN RACE" -A special people, we belong to God.
 - ii. "A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD"—We have access to God.
 - iii. "A HOLY NATION"—A people set apart to serve God.
 - iv. "GOD'S OWN PEOPLE"—Acquired for God's own possession.