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***THE DIRT ON THE CHURCH***

1 Peter 2:9: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Genesis 1:27-31: So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

*Three distinct callings that God has placed on humanity:*

***Royal Rule- "image bearers"***

*Genesis 1:27-28: "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them..."*

*Image of God speaks of function and value.*

***Priestly Calling - "cultivate and keep"***

*Genesis 2:15: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."*

*God is the initiator and we are to cultivate and guard what he has given to us.*

***Prophetic- "continuing God's work"***

*Genesis 2:19: Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.*

*God invites us to be a part of what He is doing. Our job is to discern what that is and join Him.*