

## SERMON

(Père René Claude Guibert)

## Principal points

Quote: ‘ You are a holy nation, the people of God.  
You are called to proclaim the mighty acts of God’.

2000 years after the first Christians, we find ourselves in a similar situation; becoming a scattered minority in today’s society.

The expression ‘to proclaim the mighty acts of God’ risks being misinterpreted - either acknowledging the triumphs of an all-powerful deity or signifying the competition to, even the négation of, this power, due to the technological and scientific successes of modern mankind.

The ‘mighty acts of God’ are those accomplished by his Son Jesus Christ for the benefit of mankind. Following on from his chosen people, Israel, we, too, have been chosen by God to proclaim his bountiful and all-powerful nature. That’s why we are here as his body on earth..

In Matthew’s gospel, Jesus tells us that we are to be salt and light for the world.

Salt: to be fully involved in the world,; not drawing back from its problems.

Light: not to be afraid to believe; nor being frightened to affirm our different Christian beliefs, with respect and without any feelings of superiority.(we are not the source of the light, only channels for it).

We are ‘in the world’ but not ‘of the world’.

We are salt and light, for example;

- when we act in Christ’s name to uphold basic human rights
- when we push for the recognition of other, different, people, or for the welcoming of migrants,
- when we act for the safeguarding of the world we share;  
the earth given to us by God.
- when we offer ourselves to Christ as workers for unity  
between different parts of his church.

The ‘mighty acts of God’ have not yet all been fulfilled in history. There’s more to come. Let’s acknowledge and understand how privileged we are to have been chosen by God to be his body and to witness to his love.

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