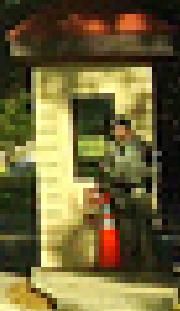
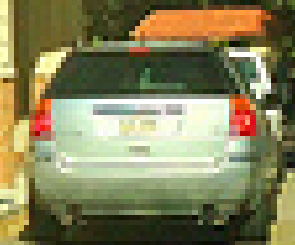


The background of the image shows a group of business professionals in a modern office setting. They are silhouetted against a bright, warm light source, likely the sun, which creates a strong glow and casts long, dark shadows. The office has large glass windows that offer a view of a city skyline with several skyscrapers. The overall atmosphere is professional and energetic. A yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main text.

# **The Marketplace Christian's Primary Mission in Business**

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE



# The marketplace is a great place for a Christian.

- Almost all non-Christians work in the marketplace.
  - Only 11.7% of U.S. population in church by 2050.
- Almost all Christians work in the marketplace.
  - 85% of the Christian workforce in U.S.
- Discipleship actually can happen in the marketplace.
- It's the example set by Jesus.
  - Jesus was a blue-collar worker.
  - 92% of his public appearances were in the marketplace.
  - 87% of his parables had a workplace context.

# What are “royal priests” called to do in the business world?

*“But you are a chosen people, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation...”*

*—1 Pet. 2:9a*

# Responsibilities as Priests: Sacrifice & Proclaim

- Royal priests “**offer spiritual sacrifices** that please God” (1 Pet. 2:5b)
  - Types of “spiritual sacrifices” for marketplace Christians: the work itself, personal holiness, forgiveness, financial earnings, extra time at the office, selfish ambition, etc.
- Royal priests “**proclaim** the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9b, NASB)

# Responsibilities as Kings: Provide & Protect

*“Fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule.” –Gen. 1:28, NASB*

- **Provide:** Meaning through work, economic value, opportunities, compensation, spiritual gifts, alms, etc.
- **Protect:** Making wise and righteous decisions, life-giving words, prayer, support through personal hardships, etc.

# What is our *primary* mission in the marketplace?

- Applying timeless principles?
- Being financially prosperous?
- Abolishing the “local church” model in favor of something “better”?
- Selling Christian-themed stuff to Christians?
- A prescribed method of “marketplace ministry”?