

1

1 The Chosen Cornerstone and His living stones

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

2

1 to whom you are drawing near, a living stone rejected by men but chosen and precious in the sight of God.

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

3

1 And you yourselves, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

4

1 For it stands in scripture, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame."

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

5

1 Therefore the honor is for you who believe, but for those who refuse to believe, "The stone that the builders rejected, this one has become the cornerstone,"

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

6

1 and "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense," who stumble because they disobey the word to which also they were consigned.

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

7

1 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's possession, so that you may proclaim the virtues of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light,

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

8

1 who once were not a people, but now are the people of God, the ones who were not shown mercy, but now are shown mercy.

2 1 Peter 2:4-10

9

1 Now if I were to try to identify a theme in verses 4-10, I would identify the theme as spiritual privileges—spiritual privileges. This is one we really ought to enjoy.

So very often when we study the Bible, we're talking about spiritual duties, aren't we?

Very often we're being exhorted. We're being commanded.

2 John MacArthur

10

1 But in my judgment there aren't really any imperatives here. There aren't really any commands. There aren't any exhortations here. This is a list of our privileges, what is ours because we are

Christ's.

2 John MacArthur

11

1 Christ chosen for fellowship

12

1 We must all come to Christ.

13

1 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. The one who comes to me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty again.

2 John 6:35

14

1 Everyone whom the Father gives to me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will never throw out,

2 John 6:37

15

1 No one is able to come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up on the last day.

2 John 6:44

16

1 And he said, "Because of this I said to you that no one can come to me unless it has been granted to him by the Father."

2 John 6:65

17

We must all keep coming to Christ

18

1 Come to me, all of you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

2 Matthew 11:28

19

28 Δεϋτε πρός με πάντες οἱ κοπιῶντες καὶ πεφορτισμένοι, κἀγὼ ἀναπαύσω ὑμᾶς.

20

Christ chosen and precious by God

21

1 Who is the rock of Matthew 16:18?

22

Καγὼ δε σοι λεγω οτι συ ει Πετρος και επι ταυτη τη πετρα οικοδομησω μου την εκκλησιαν και πυλαι αδου ου κατισχουσιν αυτης

23

1 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it!

2

Matthew 16:18

24

1 Christ is THE Rock

25

1 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected, this has become the cornerstone. This came about from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

2

Matthew 21:42

26

The Greek word here in 1 Peter is not πέτρα or πέτρος, but λίθος—not the solid native rock on which the temple is built, nor a piece of rock, an unhewn stone, but a stone shaped and wrought, chosen for a chief corner-stone.

27

1 Christ is a living stone

28

St. Peter adds the epithet "living" (λίθον ζώντα). The figure of a stone is inadequate, all figures are inadequate, to represent heavenly mysteries.

This stone is not, like the stones of earth, an inert mass; it is living, full of life; nay, it gives life, as well as strength and coherence, to the stones which are built upon it: for the Lord hath life in himself—he is risen from the dead, and is alive for evermore.

29

1 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

2 1 Peter 1:3

30

1 because you have been born again, not from perishable seed but imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

2 1 Peter 1:23

31

Christ is the chosen and precious cornerstone

32

In 1 Peter 1:19, Peter uses *timios* talking about how the blood of Christ is precious in itself. It has intrinsic value.

33

Here in 1 Peter 2:4, Peter uses *entimos* to indicate that an external party, God the Father, has exalted God the Son and has highly honored Him.

34

1 We are living stones with Christ

35

Just as Jesus is a living stone, we become living stones that line up with the cornerstone. We share in His glory as we conform our lives to His.

36

Stones are by their nature, dead. However, when we align our lives with the life of Jesus, the Living, Resurrected Cornerstone, then we become living stones.

37

1 He came to his own things, and his own people did not receive him.

2 John 1:11

38

We are stones with a purpose

39

- We are meant to worship God
- We are meant to witness about God
- We are meant to work for God

40

We are to be built up in to a "spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

41

1 How do we fulfill these purposes?

42

1 Line up with the cornerstone that the world is rejecting (so it can reject you as well); spend time daily in the Word

43

1 Fit together well

44

1 Look for opportunities to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, praise, and testimony.

45

1 And they conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives until death.

2 Revelation 12:11

46

1 But an hour is coming—and now is here—when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for indeed the Father seeks such people to be his worshipers.

2 John 4:23

47

1 An acceptable sacrifice

48

1 In Romans 12:1, Paul talks about an offering given in the right manner. The focus is on the

appropriateness of the giver.

49

1 1 Peter 2:5 speaks of an offering that by its essential nature pleases God. It is an offering that is especially "welcome" in His presence. The focus is on the character of the gift.

50

1 An available mediator

51

1 Two choices for you

52

1 To those who believe and obey the Word, Christ is:

- Precious
- Light-giving
- A sure foundation

53

To those who reject the Word and reject Christ, He is:

- A stumbling-block over which they will trip and fall. (And from Peter's perspective, pass into eternal torment.)