

# Discipleship

A Mature Understanding of Our  
Existence and Obligation

# I Peter 2.1-17

# Our existence—our identity

1. We are babies. I Peter 2.2
2. We are living stones. I Peter 2.5
3. We are priests. I Peter 2.5, 9
4. We are God's special people. I Peter 2.9-10
5. We are foreigners. I Peter 2.11
6. We are servants. I Peter 2.16

# Our obligations-our duties

1. As babies, our obligation is to grow by feeding upon God's word.
  - A. I Peter 2.1-3
  - B. God's people are supposed to lust after God's word
2. As living stones, our obligation is to participate in the building up of a spiritual house
  - A. I Peter 2.4-8/Ephesians 2.19-22
  - B. We are being built (we don't build ourselves—see # 1)
  - C. Our obligation is to submit to that building

3. As priests, our obligation is worship

A. I Peter 2.5-9

B. OT priests had access to God

C. OT priests offered sacrifices to God

D. We offer spiritual sacrifices (2.5)

4. As God's people, our obligation is witness

1. I Peter 2.9-10

2. We declare God's mercy in bringing us to His light

5. As foreigners, our obligation is holiness
  - A. I Peter 2.11-12
  - B. A “stranger” had no rights of citizenship
  - C. A “pilgrim” had no permanent status
  - D. Our obligation is to be faithful to the “lifestyle” of our true home—this is what holiness is.
  
6. As servants, our obligation is obedience
  - A. I Peter 2.13-17
  - B. We serve God by participating in the world around us—while never abandoning the guiding precepts of our true homeland.

# Finally—there are “offsetting” elements to our identity

1. We have individual and collective identity
  1. We are babies—that’s individual
  2. We are living stones—that’s corporate—part of something else
2. We have private and public duties
  1. We worship, as part of the “temple”
  2. We work, in the presence of unbelievers
3. We have earthly and Heavenly existence
  1. We are citizens of Heaven
  2. And pilgrims on earth

# So as mature disciples

We are always working to hold these things in the proper balance and relationship.