

A Spiritual House

1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, *"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"* and *"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."* They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

As you **come to him**

Leviticus 9:5

And they brought what Moses commanded in front of the tent of meeting, and all the congregation **drew near** and stood before the LORD.

Deuteronomy 5:27

Go near and hear all that the LORD our God will say, and speak to us all that the LORD our God will speak to you, and we will hear and do it.‘

Exodus 12:48

If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may **come near** and keep it;

By this expression Peter hints, in a theme to be made explicit later in the sentence, that all believers now enjoy the great privilege, reserved only for priests in the Old Testament, of 'drawing near' to God in worship. But rather than coming to the altar or even to the holy place in the Jerusalem temple, they now come 'to him' in whom 'the whole fulness of deity dwells bodily' (Col. 2:9)

- Wayne Grudem



As you come to him, **a living stone**
rejected by men but in the sight of
God chosen and precious:

Acts 4:10-11

let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom **you crucified**, whom **God raised from the dead**—by him this man is standing before you well.

This Jesus is the stone that was **rejected by you**, the builders, which **has become the cornerstone**.

Peter calls him a living Stone; he would not have us think of his Lord as inert marble! Christ is the living Stone, however , not just because he is a living person, but because he is alive from the dead as the risen Lord. God set his cornerstone in place by the resurrection.

– Edmund Clowney



Numbers 20:8

“Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the **rock** before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring **water out of the rock** for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle.”

Psalm 118:22

The **stone** that the builders rejected has become the **cornerstone**.

Isaiah 8:13-15

But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a **rock of stumbling** to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken."

Numbers 20
The Water-Giving Rock

Psalm 118
The Cornerstone

1 Corinthians 10:4
and all drank the same
spiritual drink. For they
drank from the spiritual
Rock that followed them,
and the Rock was Christ.

But he looked directly at
them and said, "What then
is this that is written:
"The stone that the
builders rejected
has become the
cornerstone'?"

Isaiah 8
The Rock of Stumbling

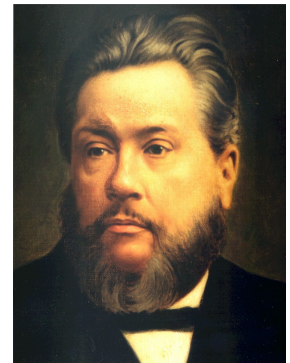
Romans 9:32-33 Why?
Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

As you come to him, a living stone
rejected by men but in the sight of
God **chosen and precious:**

Is Jesus precious to your soul?

Remember, on your answer to this question depends your condition. You believe, if he is precious to you, but if he is not precious, then you are not believers, and you are condemned already because you believe not on the Son of God.

– Charles Spurgeon



you yourselves like living stones
are being built up as a spiritual house,

It is in union with him that they live,
and answer the end of their
regeneration; as stones of a building
are of no use but as they occupy their
proper places in a building, and rest
on the foundation.

– Adam Clarke



1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that **you are**
God's temple and that God's Spirit
dwells in you?

God's architecture is biological. His house grows as new stones are added, but also as the stones in place are perfected. The living stones, as Paul says (Ephesians 2:21), grow into a holy temple of the Lord.

– Edmund Clowney



to be a **holy priesthood**, to offer **spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Revelation 1:4-5

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a **kingdom, priests to his God and Father**, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 7:24-25

but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives **to make intercession for them.**

There can no longer be an elite priesthood with claims of special access to God, or special privileges in worship or in fellowship with God.

– Wayne Grudem



But you are a chosen race
royal priesthood holy
nation a people for his own
possession that you may
proclaim the excellencies of
him who called you out of
darkness into his marvelous
light. Once you were not a
people, but now you are
God's people; once you had
not received mercy, but
now you have received
mercy.

Exodus 15:5-6

Now therefore, if you will
indeed obey my voice and
keep my covenant, you
shall be my treasured
possession among all
peoples, for all the earth is
mine; and you shall be to
me a kingdom of priests
and a holy nation. These
are the words that you
shall speak to the people
of Israel.”

that you may **proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Israel: The Strategic Land Bridge



Philippians 2:14-15

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, **among whom you shine as lights in the world,**

Once you were not a people, but now
you are God's people; once you had
not received mercy, but now you have
received mercy.

The church of Christ is the multitude of all those who believe in Christ for the remission of sins, and who are thankful for that mercy and who love the word of God purely, and who hate the sin in this world an long for the life to come.

– William Tyndale

