

Series "Living God Gives A Living Hope"
"Living Stones"
1 Peter 2:4-10
Study-8

1 Peter 2:4 – "And coming to Him as to a living stone"

1 Peter 2:4-10 – Peter now stresses the corporate Life of Christians!

Verses 4-8 – The Christian's Community; **Verses 9-10** – The Christian's Identity.

Thought Of The Passage: Christian's Identity Is Found In Christ, But The Christian's Life Is Lived Out In The Christian Community.

1. Verses 4-8 – A Family With A Foundation

2. Verses 9-10 – A Family With A Purpose

1. Verses 4-8 – A Family With A Foundation:

1 Peter 2:4 – "And" – Believers need to remember the life source. The Word of God is the source of Salvation/Life!

1 Peter 2:1-3 – Peter used the analogy of babies desiring milk (The Word).

1 Peter 2:4 – Peter now uses an analogy of a building (Temple, Jewish).

"coming to Him" – To "come" was used of drawing near to God in worship in the Old Testament. It means "being joined to Him, united in faith, conversion." John 5:40 – "come." It's in the present tense, meaning that "we're to come personally and repeatedly, as you keep coming."
Matthew 11:28

Peter lists 3 types of stones: Living Stone; Chief Cornerstone; Stone Of Stumbling.

- 1. Verses 4-5 – "Living Stone"** – "as to a living stone" – "pulsating with life." This literally means, "a stone that gives life and provides sustenance." 1 Peter 1:3 – "Living Hope;" 1 Peter 1:23 – "Living Word;" Matthew 16:16 – "Son of the living God;" John 4:10 – "living water;" John 6:51 – "living bread."

Like the rock smitten in the wilderness 2X, Exodus 17;
Numbers 20. Striking of the rock pictured His crucifixion.

1 Corinthians 10:4

The Savior Was God's Choice: "which has been rejected by men, but is choice." – Verse 4 – "chosen by God." 1 Peter 2:6 – Jesus is referred to as "Choice." It's the idea of being picked out as excellent.

Isaiah 28:16 and Psalm 118:22

Matthew 21:42; Psalm 118:22 – Though rejected by men, Jesus Christ was chosen and exalted by God!

The Savior Is Precious: "and precious in the sight of God," – Note 3X in this passage, verses 4, 6, and 7, Jesus is referred to as "precious." This word means "honored, esteemed and valuable, to be prized."

Verse 5 – Privileges Of The Followers Of Jesus: 1 Peter 2:5.

Jesus, The Foundation Stone: 1 Corinthians 3:11;
Matthew 7:24-27.

We Are A Family With A Foundation: "are being built up"

"as a spiritual house" – This "house" idea of the temple, and idea of household (Family). We are in Jesus; we are built upon Him together.

Matthew 16:18

Peter wrote this letter to believers living in five different provinces, yet he said that they all belonged to one "spiritual house."

"for a holy priesthood," – Body, company; body of Christians constitutes a body of priests. 1 Peter 2:9 – "A royal PRIESTHOOD," – Hebrews 7.

"to offer up spiritual sacrifices" – Non-material, not animal.

Psalm 51:16-17

- Offering our bodies as living sacrifices – Romans 12:1-2.
- Offering praise to Him, regardless of how we feel, and song – Hebrews 13:15.
- Offering our financial gifts to spread the gospel – Philippians 4:18.
- Offering our good works and possessions to Him – Hebrews 13:16.
- The people we win to Christ are sacrifices for His glory – Romans 15:16.

1 Corinthians 3:16

God wanted His people Israel to become “a kingdom of priests,” Exodus 19:6.

2. Verses 6-8 – “Chief Cornerstone” – 1 Peter 2:6.

“For this is contained in Scripture:” – Verses 6-8 – explain the word “Stone,” Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 8:14; 28:16.

“PRECIOUS CORNER stone,” – Jesus referred to Himself as the chief cornerstone, Luke 20:17.

Ephesians 2:20-21

1 Peter 2:7 – “but for those who disbelieve,” – “refuse to hear.”

Matthew 21:33-43 – Jesus tells a parable about His rejection by Israel.

John 3:19

3. Verse 8 – “Stone Of Stumbling” – 1 Peter 2:8.

“and, ‘A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE’”; – This rejected stone will judge those that rejected it. Not only rejected Jesus Christ but stumbled over Him! Isaiah 8:14; Daniel 2:34

“for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word,” – “not to allow one’s self to be persuaded.” Stumbling is the punishment of disobedience. People stumble because they won’t believe, not because they can’t believe!

2. Verses 9-10 – A Family With A Purpose:

1 Peter 2:9 – Exodus 19:5; Isaiah 43:20.

4-Point Description Of Who we are: No Identity Crisis For The Believer:

- 1) “But you are A CHOSEN RACE,”** – Exodus 19:5-6; Not because they were a great people, but because He loved them, Deuteronomy 7:7-8, John 15:16.
- 2) “A royal PRIESTHOOD,”** – The word “royal” means, “belonging to the king” In Verse– 5 “holy priesthood” Exodus 19:5-6 Jesus is called the great High Priest in Hebrews 4:14 because He has made the final sacrifice. In the New Testament we are the priesthood. That means that we don’t need a priest to get to God.
- 3) “A HOLY NATION,”** – The word “Holy” same word we get “saintly, or saint” it means “different” the believer has been called to be different from other men! Our citizenship is in heaven, Philippians 3:20.
- 4) “A PEOPLE FOR God’s OWN POSSESSION,”** – Deuteronomy 7:6; Isaiah 43:21; Malachi 3:7. This literally means, “A people for His own possession, God’s very own.”

Why Am I Here? – “so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”

Ephesians 2:10

“proclaim” – “show forth, to tell out, to advertise.” Because the world is “in the dark,” people do not know the “excellencies of Him,” – of God.

1 Peter 2:10

Where We Came From: “for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD;” – Ephesians 5:8.

“you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.” – This is reference from the book of Hosea 2:3.

Where Are We Going? Our identity to Christ is the key to our destiny! Ephesians 2:5-6.

Application:

1. Am I Part Of A Christian Community? The Individual Christian Finds His True Place Only When He Is Built Into The Edifice. Solitary Religion Is Ruled Out As An Impossibility.
2. With Jesus There Is No Neutrality. Either Jesus Will Be The Cornerstone Or Jesus Will Be A Stone Of Stumbling. You Cannot Ignore Jesus.
3. Alignment With The Cornerstone Will Result In The Whole Structure Being Straight. You And I Are To Build Our Lives On The Foundation Of Christ And To Make Sure That Everything We Do Lines Up With The Lord.
4. We Are A Family With A Purpose: There Is No Identity Crisis For The Believer. We Are "A CHOSEN RACE, A Royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION."