

1 Peter 2:4-5

The House of God



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All emphasis added are me

1

1 Peter 2:4-10

⁴ As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ 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.

2

1 Peter 2:4-10

⁶ 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.” ⁷ 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,” ⁸ and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

3

1 Peter 2:4-10

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.

4

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1 Peter 2:4 *As you come to Him*

- It all begins here “*Coming to Him* (Christ the living stone)”
 - Our initial coming to Jesus (Salvation-must begin here)
- Present tense participle (NASB “*Coming to Him*”)
 - Peter has in mind our initial coming (must begin there) and our continual coming (worship/spiritual sacrifices)
 - As we come to Him & are coming to Him numerous things are happening
- Our “v4 *coming to Him*” leads to our “v5 *being built up as a spiritual house*” leads to our “v5 *offering spiritual sacrifices*”

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1 Peter 2:4 *As you come to Him*

The evidence that you “came (salvation)” is
that you are “coming to Him”

– Abiding in Him (Communion, Worship, Prayer)

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1 Peter 2:4 *Him, a living stone*

Who are we coming to? *Him, a living stone*

– Next week we will look at v6-8 which show Jesus Christ fulfilling the OT references to “stone, cornerstone”

“*Living stone*”-Not only is Jesus the fulfillment of the OT references, but He is a living stone

– Reference to Jesus rising from the dead and possessing eternal life (to give) to all who come
– V5 “*you yourselves like living stones*”

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1 Peter 2:4 *rejected by men*

Jesus, the foretold (OT) stone/cornerstone (Messiah), came and fulfilled scripture, proved Himself by miracles, offered salvation/forgiveness yet they cried out “*No not Him, Give us Barabbas*”

– Who do you say He is? Jesus demands a response

Why do men reject Him?

V8 “*A stone of stumbling, & a rock of offense*”,
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do”

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1 Peter 2:4 *rejected by men*

Knowing that He is rejected by men has implications?

– Matthew 7:13 *Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

– You will not be applauded by the world “*but hated*” John 15:18

Are we to assume God’s plan is failing because so many are rejecting Him? We must see things from God’s perspective

1 Peter 2:4 God's perspective

“But in the sight of God (He is) chosen and precious”

- The world measures Christ with blind eyes & depraved hearts
- God chose Him (ordained Him) and Christ is precious (prized/high honor)
- Man, left alone, will never see the beauty of Christ and will never come to Him

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1 Peter 2:5 *you yourselves like living stones*

As you come to Him, the living stone, *“you yourselves like living stones”*

- As we come in faith to Jesus Christ, we receive the eternal life He provides and He lives through us
- Colossians 3:3-4 *For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*

12

1 Peter 2:5 are being built up as a spiritual house

Christ is the living stone, in coming to Him, we (living stones in Him) “*are being built up as a spiritual house*”

- This is in the passive indicative (statement of fact)
- All who come and are coming, become living stones in Him, and are being built up as a spiritual house

Christians are being built up into a spiritual house (the church is God’s spiritual temple)

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1 Peter 2:5 are being built up as a spiritual house

1 Timothy 3:15 “*If I delay, you may know how one ought to behave **in the household of God, which is the church** of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth*”

- In the OT/OC the temple represented God’s presence
- In the NT/NC each individual living stone has the Spirit of God in them (Ezk 36:27)
- As God gathers His people, He is building His Spiritual house, and it is here He dwells

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1 Peter 2:5 are being built up as a spiritual house

As God draws men unto Jesus (The living stone), through the Spirit, they become living stones, and are being built up as a spiritual house.

1 Corinthians 3:16 *Do you not know that you (plural-church) are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?*

15

1 Peter 2:5 to be a holy priesthood

In the OT only a single tribe could perform sacred ceremonial duties, and only the high priest could go into the Holy of Holies once a year (Lev 16:2)

In Christ, all believers are a holy priesthood: We have been clothed in the righteous of Christ, washed in His blood, anointed by His Spirit, and appointed to His service.

- There are different giftings/callings within the church, but all believers are called to the holy priesthood
- You do not need an earthly intermediary

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1 Peter 2:5 to be a holy priesthood

Hebrews 10:19 *Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus*

Ephesians 3:12 *in Whom (Christ) we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.*

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1 Peter 2:5 to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ

Just as the priest had sacrificial responsibilities, we “the holy priesthood” have sacrificial duties

What are these spiritual sacrifices?

- **Romans 12:1-2** *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect*

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1 Peter 2:5 to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ

What are these spiritual sacrifices?

Hebrews 13:15 *Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.*

Hebrews 13:16 *Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Phil 4:10-19)*

Romans 15:15-16 *But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit*

Romans 11:36 *For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to Him be glory forever, Amen.*

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Summary

All those who come to Him are evident in that they abide in Him. Jesus, the living stone, makes us living stones, and we are being built up as a spiritual house (temple), to be a holy priesthood (all believers), to offer spiritual sacrifices which are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<His way are not our ways>

Let's offer up spiritual sacrifice of praise to Him now for all He has done, remembering that we were hell deserving sinners.

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