



# *Epistle of 1 Peter*

## *1 Peter 2:7-10 - God's Corner Stone and Identity with Christ Part 2*

- *1 Peter 2:7 – “Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who disbelieve,*
  - *“The stone which the builders rejected Has become (has been made) the chief cornerstone,(Psalm 118:22)”*
  - *What's therefore there for?*
    - Statement to further establish the Lord Jesus Christ as the *living stone*, the *cornerstone!*
      - *Pritchard – ‘The image of the cornerstone comes from the ancient quarries where highly-trained stonemasons carefully chose the stones used in construction. No stone was more important than the cornerstone because the integrity of the whole structure depended on the cornerstone containing exactly the right lines. If the cornerstone was not exactly right, the entire building would be out of line. For that reason, builders inspected many stones, rejecting each one until they found the one, they wanted. Rejected stones might be used in other parts of the building.’*
  - *Either you believe it, or you don't!*



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- *Isaiah 8:11,14,15 - For the Lord spoke thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying: .....He will be as a sanctuary, But a **stone of stumbling** and a **rock of offense** to both the houses of Israel, as a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. and **many among them shall stumble; They shall fall and be broken, Be snared and taken.**”*
- *John 9:39 - And Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, that **those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.**”*
- *Acts 4:11,12 - “This is the ‘**stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.**’ “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is **no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.**” (Peter’s sermon at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple in Jerusalem.*

### •1 Peter 2:8 – and

- *“**A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.**” (Isaiah 8:14). **They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.***



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- *They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.*
  - Any surprises here?
    - What word (*logos*) – has many uses?
      - » Thayer – here best represents the doctrine concerning the attainment through Christ of salvation in the kingdom of God
    - *were appointed* – *passive indicative; to disobedience* - really?
      - » *1 Cor 1:23 - but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Gentiles foolishness,*
      - » *Rom 11:11 - I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles.*
      - » *Rom 11:30-32 - For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.*
      - » *1 Thess 5:9 - For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,*
      - » Jamieson- Fausset-Brown - “Appointed” or “set” (not here “FORE-ordained”) refers, not to the eternal counsel so directly, as to the penal justice of God.



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Through the same Christ whom sinners rejected, they shall be rejected; unlike believers, they are by God *appointed unto wrath* as fitted for it. The lost shall lay all the blame of their ruin on their own sinful perversity, not on God's decree; the saved shall ascribe all the merit of their salvation to God's electing love and grace.'  
»Bigg – 'Their disobedience is not ordained; the penalty of their disobedience is.'

- **1 Peter 2:9 – “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”**
  - How do you feel about being *a chosen generation* in contrast to those who have been invited but have rejected the invitation?
    - This verse reminds us of a similar call to the nation of Israel.
      - *Ex 19:5,6 - Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.*



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- » Constable – ‘**God's purpose for Israel was that she be a nation of priests** who would stand between God and the rest of humanity representing people before God.
- But now we are a chosen generation – the church!
  - » *2 Peter 1:3* - According as his divine power **hath given unto us all things** that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
- Why did we respond?
- How do you feel about being *a royal priesthood* (see *verse 5*)?
  - Thayer – ‘priests of kingly rank, i.e. exalted to a moral rank and freedom which exempts them from the control of everyone but God and Christ.’
    - *Rev 1:6* - **And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.**
- How do you feel about being *a holy nation*?
  - Separated unto His sovereign position and condition.
    - *Rom 9:25* - **I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved.**
- How do you feel about being *His own special*



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*(peculiar, purchased) people?*

Here a people appointed to achieve the **end which one has in view**, i.e. object, purpose:

*that you may proclaim the praises (excellencies) of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light!*

- McCalley – ‘*Excellencies (areta)* means one of noble character and the noble acts of God, priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. We now have a new calling, “into His marvelous light.” This involves holiness (1:15), steadfastness under pressure (2:19-21), communication of blessing (3:9), and eternal glory (5:10). **Our new relationship is stated as the “people of God.”**
  - Tit 2:14 - *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*
  - Col 1:12 - *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:*

**•1 Peter 2:10 – “Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained**



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*but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”*

- To whom is this referring, the Israel and/or the Gentiles?
  - Constable – ‘The evidence from the use of the Old Testament in *1 Peter 2:6-10* suggests that the Old Testament imagery used to describe the church in *1 Peter 2:9-10* does not present the church as a new Israel replacing ethnic Israel in God's program. Instead, Old Testament Israel was a pattern of the church's relationship with God as his chosen people.’
    - The shortcomings of covenant theology that fails to rightly divide the word of truth.,
      - » *2 Tim 2:15 - Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
      - » *Rom 9:26 - And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, **Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God.***
      - » *Rom 11:6,7 - **And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeks for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded***