

1 Peter 2:6-7 (NASB77)

⁶For *this* is contained in Scripture:

" BEHOLD I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER *stone*, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

⁷This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve,

" THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER *stone*,"



Peter draws a contrast between believers and rejectors of the living Stone.

To those who believe

- It is all the preciousness of Christ,
- all the blessing He secures, is made good to the believer.



To those who reject -unpersuaded

⁸and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.



The words "**a stone of stumbling**" are the translation of *lithos*, "a loose stone in the path," and *proskommatos* meaning "to cut against," which put together mean "**an obstacle against which one strikes.**"



The words "**rock of offence**" are from *petra*, "a ledge rising out of the ground," and *skandalou*, "a trap set to trip one." Our word "scandal" comes from the latter word.

Unbelievers find the Living Stone, which is precious to believers, an obstacle against which they strike, and a scandal, which offends them.



To those

- **He becomes a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence.**
- The natural man stumbles at His word.
- They would not believe the truth, and therefore to this end they were appointed.
- They were not appointed to sin or to disobey but being rebellious and disobedient they were destined by their unbelief to stumble at the humiliation of Christ.



⁹ *But you are*

A CHOSEN RACE,

A royal PRIESTHOOD,

A HOLY NATION,

A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION,

*(PURPOSE) that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him
who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;*

*¹⁰ for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE
PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but
now you have RECEIVED MERCY.*



A chosen race. Legitimate offsprings of the God of the universe.

Vines: denotes "**an offspring;**" then, "**a family;**" then, "**a race, nation;**" otherwise, "**a kind or species;**" it is translated "**countrymen,**"

Race (genos) refers to a group with a common origin

Chosen (eklektos) shows the distinctness of the believer

To be of the **chosen race**, one must be Born from above with a new life and a new heritage that was created separate from all of Adam's race.



As "**a kingly or royal priest**," the exercise of the heart by faith is toward the God who brought us to Himself by His grace in Christ.

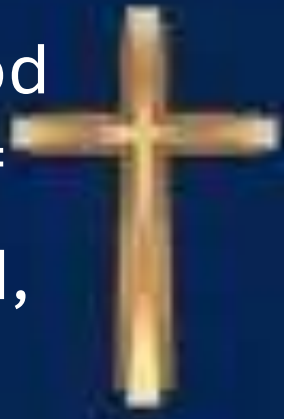


Can any privilege be higher or more intimate than to be in His presence, walking in the light as He is, delivered from the self-centeredness which breaks out into the variance of separate will, and cleansed by the blood which takes away every sin? to adore the Father, the only true God?



Then we are "**a holy nation**,"

When the nation, who ought to have been so, stood with the stamp on it of evil to the uttermost, not of idolatry alone but of scorning the Holy One of God, the Messiah.



Had they not cried in their blind and mad hatred,
His blood be on us and on our children?

The remnant, believers, who owned Him and were washed from their sins in His blood, were now "**a holy nation**" accepted in His name.



Finally, they were "**a people of God for a possession.**"

We are dearer, because our faith broke through the manifold hindrances by which unbelief, pride, and judicial darkness encompassed the Jewish nation and the world.

Few as we are, compared with the mass rushing on to destruction, they were "**a people for a possession**" to God,
that they



(PURPOSE) ^{9B} *that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*



This is the Christian position here below.

Now, while the rejected Christ sits on the Father's throne, and the Spirit is sent forth to glorify Him after a spiritual sort in a world of darkness and rebellion against God, those who confess Christ are to tell out His excellencies.



¹⁰*for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.*



- We were once “*not a people*,” a reference to pre-salvation life—
- We had no relationship to God.
- We now have a new calling, “*into His marvelous light*.”
- Our new relationship is stated as *the “people of God*.
- **What Israel lost in rejecting the Christ was theirs, only in a more eminent degree and with even a far higher sphere in God's sovereign grace.**

