

1 Peter 2:4-10

# Our Living Hope

 We are but "pilgrims" (vs. 1), implying there is a destination
 a goal - a HOMELAND! — Heb 11:13-16

This HOMELAND is spoken of as a LIVING HOPE which Peter points to as a means of encouraging us to ENDURE — 1:6-9,13,13; 5:9-11

# Our Living Hope

The SOURCE of OUR HOPE — 1:3 The NATURE of OUR HOPE — 1:4 The CERTAINTY of OUR HOPE — 1:5 The POWER of OUR HOPE — 1:6-9

## "Be holy, for I am holy." (1:15,16)

FOCUS our MINDS & ACTIONS— (1:13) TRUST God, BEING Obedient & Holy (13-16) Live In REVERENCE & GODLY FEAR - (17) HONOR the PRICE PAID for our REDEMPTION - (18-21) "Begotten By The Word" - (1:22-2:3)

## 1 Peter 2:4–10 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, <sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." 7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,"

### 1 Peter 2:4–10 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. 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; <sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Jesus was destined to have different effects on different people... Luke 2:34

> <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against - Luke 2:34 (NKJV)

To some, Jesus will be SAVIOR! For others, He will be their down fall! Their real character will be revealed -

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# JESUS: OUR LIVING STONE

1 Peter 2:4 (NKJV) 4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

## COMING TO HIM AS:

- Denotes choice Josh. 24:15; Matt. 11:28; John 7:37; Rev. 22:17; Rom. 6:16-18
- Denotes an action of the "will"- John 5:40; 6:27; 8:51
- Denotes constant & continuous "coming"- John 6:35,37,40,44,45; 8:31; 1 Cor. 15:58; Col. 1:23

# JESUS: OUR LIVING STONE

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# AS TO A LIVING STONE:

- Jesus is the source and foundation of all spiritual life!
- He has life within Himself John 5:25-26 -
- He is the source of life to others
   John 5:24; 1 Cor. 15:45; 1 Tim
  6:13-16; Rev 21:6
- Christ will raise all but only those in Him to eternal life – 1 Cor. 15:22; John 5:27,28

# JESUS: OUR LIVING STONE

#### **REJECTED INDEED BY MEN:**

John 1:10–11 (NKJV) <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

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## **REJECTED INDEED BY MEN:**

- As prophesied Psalm 118:22,23; Isaiah 8:14-15
- Applied by Jesus to Himself Matthew 21:42; Luke 20:17-18 –
- Applied to Jewish leaders and that generation who put Jesus to death and continued to fight against the gospel – Mark 8:31; Luke 17:25; Acts 4:11-12

# JESUS: OUR LIVING STONE

1 Peter 2:4 (NKJV) 4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

## HONORED BY OF GOD:

- Contrast between man's rejection and God's acceptance (cf. 1 Cor 1:18-25)
- Chosen: literally "by the side of God chosen" – (Psalm 89:19-20; Matt. 12:18)
- As prophesied (Isaiah 42:1)
- Precious: "Prized, honored, highly esteemed" (Heb 1:5; Mat. 17:5)

# **US: WE ARE LIVING STONES**

**1 Peter 2:5** (NKJV) <sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

## MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST:

- Christians are "living stones," part of the living building, the church, which is being built upon the solid foundation, i.e., Christ (cf. 1 Cor. 3:10-17; 1 Tim 3:15; Ep. 2:19-22)
- A "spiritual building" in progress (Acts 2:47; 5:14; 6:7; 9:31; etc)
- Part of a spiritual house 1 Cor 3:16; Ep. 2:19-22

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## A SPIRITUAL HOUSE:

- KEYWORD: SPIRITUAL! 1 Cor 3:16; Ep. 2:19-22
  - Not a physical building
  - Not a social club
  - Not a hospital
  - Not a secular education center
  - Not a restaurant
  - Not a homeless shelter
  - Not an entertainment provider

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## A HOLY PRIESTHOOD:

Every Christian is a "PRIEST!"

- A royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)
- Made kings & priest (Rev. 1:5-6)
- We serve as a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices to God.
  - Our bodies (Ro 12:1-2)
    - Our "vocal" praise (Heb 13:15)
  - Doing good, sharing (He 13:16)
  - Even our deaths (2 Ti 4:6-8)

# **CORNERSTONE or STUMBLING STONE**

**Peter 2:6** (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.

## A CHIEF CORNERSTONE:

- Jesus is the ROCK upon which we MUST build our lives (Matt. 7:24-27)
  - We establish our lives on solid ground when we "hear and do" what Jesus teaches!
  - As obedient children, we are enabled to withstand the "storms" of life (1 Pet 1:3-7; James 1:2-12)
  - Believers will be glorified (2 Thes 1:10-12; 1 Cor. 15:58)
- <sup>7</sup> To believers, He is precious; (7)

# **CORNERSTONE or STUMBLING STONE**

**1 Peter 2:7–8** (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> ... but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," 8 and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

## A STUMBLING STONE:

- No Other Alternative (7-8)
  - Jesus will be your cornerstone...
  - Or He will be your "stumblingstone"! (Matthew 7:13,14; John 8:24; John 14:6; Acts 4:11,12)
- Sadly, Just as Isaiah prophecies -Jesus was a stumbling stone for many (Is. 8:13-15; Matt. 21:42-44; Rom. 9:30-33; 1 Cor. 1:23)

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## A STUMBLING STONE:

- Jesus was a stumbling block to many of the Jews because...
  - They sought righteousness through the keeping of the Law (Rom. 10:1-4; Gal. 3:10,11)
  - They thought their relationship with God hinged upon their fleshly descent from Abraham (John 8:33-44; Rom. 4:1)



Could not accept a suffering Messiah to atone for their sins!

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## A STUMBLING STONE:

- In A Similar Way, Jesus Is A Stumbling-stone For Many People Today.....
  - The Jesus of the NT is not the Jesus MANY want!
  - Pride will not hear & obey!
  - Good deeds don't need Jesus!
    - Religious exercises I deserve it.
  - Stubborn hearts only if my way!
    - Worldly wisdom Makes no sense!

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## A STUMBLING STONE:

- To Those Who Stumble By Being Disobedient, Doom Awaits!
  - The disobedient were appointed by God to fall, (not, they were appointed to be disobedient) (1 Peter 2:8)



- Will die in their sins (John 8:24)
  - Will experience the wrath of God (Romans 2:4-11)

# JESUS: OUR LIVING STONE

#### 1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)

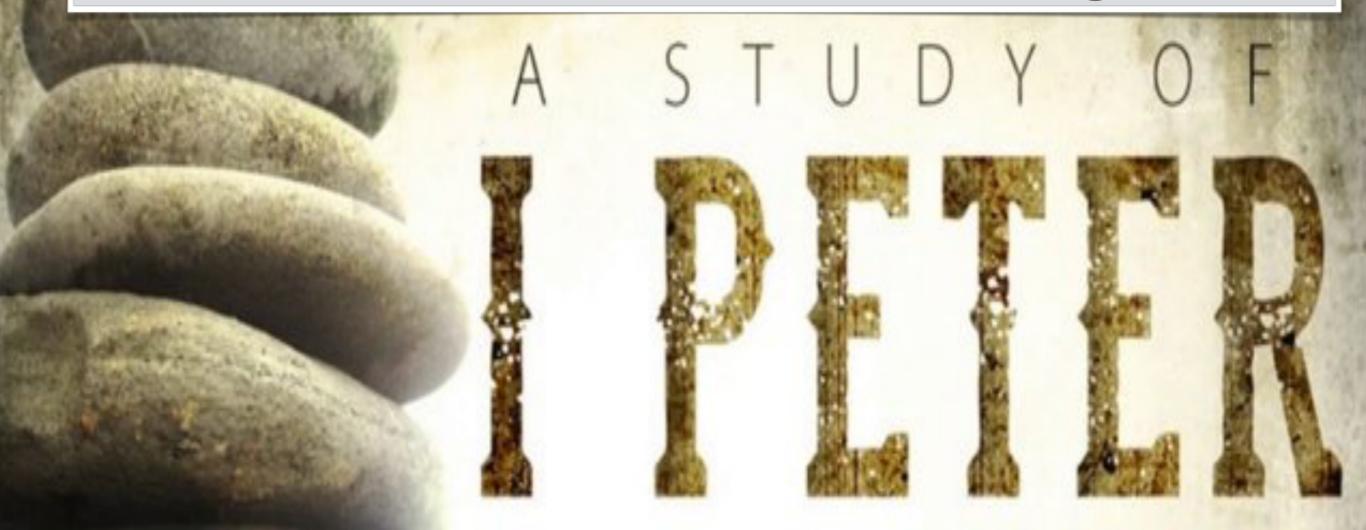
<sup>9</sup> But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

If we are willing to believe and obey Jesus, He will be our CORNERSTONE...

But if we disbelieve and are disobedient. then by necessity Jesus will be our STUMBLING-STONE...

There is no middle ground. What will Jesus be for you? Are you obedient to His Word?

#### Lesson 7: "Corner Stone or Stumbling Stone"



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# Isaiah 8:11–18 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> 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: 12 "Do not say, 'A conspiracy,' Concerning all that this people call a conspiracy, Nor be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. <sup>13</sup> The Lord of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him be your fear, And let Him be your dread. <sup>14</sup> 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.

# Isaiah 8:11–18 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> And many among them shall stumble; They shall fall and be broken, Be snared and taken." <sup>16</sup> Bind up the testimony, Seal the law among my disciples. <sup>17</sup> And I will wait on the Lord, Who hides His face from the house of Jacob; And I will hope in Him. <sup>18</sup> Here am I and the children whom the Lord has given me! We are for signs and wonders in Israel From the Lord of hosts, Who dwells in Mount Zion.

