

1 Peter 2:4-12

Study Questions

1. Peter calls Jesus “the living Stone.” Rocks are not alive? How is Jesus different? See John 5:26; 6:57 and 11:25-26. Peter calls Jesus a “precious cornerstone” in verse 6. What is the role of the cornerstone? Compare Psalm 118: 22 with Isaiah 28:16 and Daniel 2:34-35. How do we see this explained in the preaching of the Gospel? See Acts 16:30-31.
2. How is the true God distinguished from false gods? See Leviticus 26:1, Rev. 9:20 and Psalm 115: 2-8. How does God prove His identity in working salvation in the hearts of His children? Ezekiel 36:25-27
3. How does God’s approval (verse 6) over-ride sinful man’s rejection of Christ and the Good News of the Gospel? See how God exalts the very One they reject in Matthew 12:18. Where do we see Christ’s glory as Savior most clearly demonstrated? See 1 Cor. 15:3-5 How does God keep those who trust in Christ? See Isaiah 50:7
4. How is Christ a “stumbling block” (verse 8) to unbelievers? See Romans 9:32-33, 1 Cor. 1:23 and 2 Cor. 2:16. When will their rejection of the Gospel be the basis for their judgment? Compare Matt. 21:44 with Exodus 9:16 and Romans 9:22. How will unbelievers at the day of judgment be forced to give glory to God when looking at the changed behavior of believers? See verse 12 and 1 Cor. 14:25.
5. Peter reminds us that our changed life comes from a new identity in Christ. How is this much more than just a personal experience? How are believers like “living stones”? What are they being built into? See 1 Cor. 6:19, 2 Cor. 6:16 and Eph. 2:20-22.
6. What kinds of sacrifices do believers offer in terms of personal growth and in service to people? See Psalm 50:23; Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 2: 17; 4:18; and Hebrews 13:15-16
7. How are the rich phrases of verse 9 describing God’s on-going purposes for His people to be “in the world” yet not “of the world”? How is the New Testament Church the fulfillment of Old Testament Israel?
8. What do you find to be the most challenging part of Peter’s message? How are you encouraged to persevere when faced with vocal unbelievers?