

The Foundation of the Church, Part 2

1 Peter 2:4-10

May 25, 2008

Summary: This text is not just about knowing Jesus, but the joy of coming to Him and receiving His mercy. As we consider the foundation, the nature and the function of the church, so far we have discussed Christ as the living foundation, precious in the sight of God and placed by the Father. We will examine these further, as well as the disobedient, who reject Jesus and take offense at His holy name.

1. A. By way of review, how is the Stone characterized in I Peter 2:4?

B. What makes this stone the "*Living Stone*" and why is that precious in the sight of God?

I Corinthians 15:3-8, 15:12-20, John 3:16, Isaiah 53:5-11

C. It's not just that Christ is living, but that He first died on the cross for our sins, and **then** was raised from the dead, in order to reconcile us to the holiness of God. This great exercise of love is what proves Jesus as precious in the sight of God. How precious is the Lord Jesus to you?

Psalm 16:8-11, John 14:21, 21:15-17, Revelation 5:5-14

2. A. How do we know that this precious corner stone was placed by God the Father?
I Peter 2:6, Isaiah 28:16

B. In what fashion did God continue to build His church, and what does this say regarding the way God uses His people?

Acts 2:42-43, Ephesians 2:19-22

C. There can only be one corner stone, and the foundation of the teaching of the apostles and prophets has already been set, having been established in the Holy Scriptures. Yet, God is still using His people today to build His church. How is God using you?

Ephesians 3:16-21, Colossians 1:28-29

3. A. Having addressed those who believe, how does Peter address “those who disbelieve?”

I Peter 2:7-8

B. The name of Jesus is offensive to many today, just as it was back then. Why the rejection and stumbling regarding the mighty name of Jesus?

John 3:18-20, Matthew 21:33-44, Daniel 2:20-45

C. Notice that no amount of unbelief can thwart the invincible, sovereign and almighty God. THIS CORNER STONE WILL NOT BE MOVED! Should this not encourage and empower us to be lovingly bold for Jesus, no matter what the opposition?

II Timothy 1:7-9, I Peter 3:15