

The Purpose

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1 Peter 2:1-10

It is easy to become discouraged and confused by the challenges to our faith and Christian living. In chapter 1, Peter reminded those he was writing to of their purposed salvation in Christ. Though they were enduring hardships, his message was to stand firm.

This message is continued and deepened in Chapter 2.

I. The Metaphor – Put Away (1)

- A. Put off like a garment
 - 1. **Ephesians 4:22**, *To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,*
 - 2. **Ephesians 4:25**, *Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.*
 - 3. **Ephesians 4:31**, *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.*
- B. Lay aside or take off...
 - 1. Malice – the desire to inflict pain, harm, or injury to another.
 - 2. Deceit – falsehood, craftiness, seduction, slander, treachery taking on the appearance of truth so that a person is tricked.
 - 3. Hypocrisy – False front of what we are not; double heart; double minded; lying tongue.
 - 4. Envy – jealousy; attitude expressed in a desire to possess what belongs to someone else; grudge.
 - 5. Slander – evil speaking; misuse of the tongue.
- C. With the new birth comes an expectation of a distinctively Christian behavior.

II. The Hunger – Crave (2-3)

- A. A new appetite for the Word of God (pure – an absence of fraud and deceit)
- B. A new desire for spiritual growth and sanctification

III. The Picture – Stones (4-5)

- A. A living Stone (4)
 - 1. Rejected by men
 - a) **Psalm 118:22**, *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*
 - b) **Isaiah 8:14**, *And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*
 - c) Other references: **Matthew 21:42**; **Mark 12:10-11**; **Luke 20:17**; **Acts 4:11**; **Romans 9:33**
 - 2. In the sight of God
 - a) Chosen – Peter on Pentecost - **Acts 2:22–23**, *“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.*
 - b) Precious – priceless; the one and only.
- B. Living stones (5)
 - 1. The living Stone has given life to the now living stones (believers).

IV. The Illustrations

- A. Spiritual House – Our Community (5)
 - 1. Being built up and placed by God
 - 2. God is the builder. **Ephesians 2:19–22**, *So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in*

whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

- B. Holy Priesthood – Our Responsibility (5, 9)
1. Spiritual Sacrifices
 - a) Offer sacrifice of gratitude to God for the redemptive work of Christ in our life.
 - b) Reflect God’s holiness in harmony with His command to “Be holy, because I am holy.”
 - c) Offer our bodies (lives) as living sacrifices to Him (**Romans 12:1**)
 2. Anything other than spiritual sacrifices presented to God through Christ is filthy rags (**Isaiah 64:6**)

V. The Foundations (2-3; 6-10)

- A. **1 Peter 2:6**, *For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”*
1. **Isaiah 28:16**, *Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: ‘Whoever believes will not be in haste.’*
- B. **1 Peter 2:7**, *So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”*
1. **Psalm 118:22**, *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*
- C. **1 Peter 2:8**, *And “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.*
1. **Isaiah 8:14**, *And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*
- D. **1 Peter 2:9**, *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*
1. **Exodus 19:6**, *And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”*
 2. **Isaiah 43:20–21**, *The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, 21 the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.*
- E. **1 Peter 2:10**, *Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*
1. **Hosea 1:6-9; 2:3, 23**

Light for our Path

- **1 Peter 2:6**, *For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”*
 - There will never be shame for trusting in the Living Stone.