

The Cornerstone

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1 PETER 2:4-12

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



In the second chapter of 1 Peter, he talks about us being part of the royal priesthood. We are called to be set apart from this world. However, we are also called to be witnesses and ambassadors for Christ. In looking at this passage we will discuss how we can be set apart and culturally engaged at the same time. We must be the witnesses to this world, meeting them where they are, but we must also conduct ourselves as the royal priesthood. This chapter has great insight on how we can walk this fine line.



🕒 EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

Read I Peter 2:4-12 (NET)

⁴ So as you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but chosen and precious in God's sight,

⁵ you yourselves, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood and to offer spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶ For it says in scripture, "*Look, I lay in Zion a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and whoever believes in him will never be put to shame.*"

⁷ So you who believe see his value, but for those who do not believe, *the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,*

⁸ and *a stumbling-stone and a rock to trip over.* They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are *a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own*, so that you may *proclaim the virtues* of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ You once were *not a people*, but now you are God's people. You were *shown no mercy*, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as foreigners and exiles to keep away from fleshly desires that do battle against the soul,

¹² and maintain good conduct among the non-Christians, so that though they now malign you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God when he appears.

🕒 EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN?

1. Old Testament priest offered sacrifices for the people at the temple. In verse 5 we are instructed to offer spiritual sacrifices. In what ways is this different for us as a royal priesthood and in what ways is it similar?

2. What will make our sacrifices "acceptable to God?"

③ EMBRACE His Word

Why does this MATTER to me?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage:

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

SERMON NOTES