

# THE TRIALS OF TRIUMPH

## #3 Living Stones

### 1 Peter 2:1-12 (ESV)

**1 Peter 2:1-12** So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation-- <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>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."<sup>7</sup> 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," <sup>8</sup> and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

#### Have You Tasted That The Lord Is Good?

As Jesus is the cornerstone of the house, you and I are living stones in the house...

- **Psalm 118:22** The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
- **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.'
- **1 Peter 2:5** you yourselves like living stones...

#### We Are Special People

We are **LIVING STONES** and **HOLY PRIESTHOOD**.

#### If You Have Tasted That The Lord Is Good Meaning You've Accepted His Gospel... Then You Are Special.

1. You are a **SPECIAL CHOICE** God has **CHOSEN YOU**.
  - **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race...

- **1 Thessalonians 1:4-5** For we know brothers, loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our Gospel came not only to you in word but also in power and in the Holy Spirit with full conviction...

2. You are a **SPECIAL PRINCE OR PRINCESS**; God has **ADOPTED YOU**.

- **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood...
- **1 John 3:1** See what kind of love the Father has given to us that we should be called the children of God and so we are.

3. You hold a **SPECIAL OFFICE** God has given you a **SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY**.

- **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal **priesthood**...
- **Revelation 5:9-10** And they sang a new song saying, worthy are you to take the scroll and to open it's seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, <sup>10</sup>and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

4. You are a **SPECIAL CITIZEN**, God has naturalized you into His **HOLY NATION**.

- **1 Peter 2:9-10** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation...once you were not a people but now you are God's people
- **Exodus 19:5-6** Now therefore if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; <sup>6</sup>and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

5. You are part of a **SPECIAL POSSESSION**; God has made you His **OWN PROPERTY**.

- **1 Peter 2:9-10** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession...<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people but now you are God's people...
- **Malachi 3:16-17** Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. And the Lord paid attention and heard them and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup>They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him.

#### Are You Ready And Able To Live Out Your New Identity?

#### How Will Your Life Change As You Live As This Special Person That You Are?