



#3 Called to be His Special People

1 Peter 2:4-10

LIVING STONES

1 Peter 2:4-10 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,”⁸ and, “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

IDENTITY SHAPES BEHAVIOR!

1. The True Identity of Jesus Christ

A. A Specially-Selected, **LIVING** Foundation Stone, The Cornerstone of God’s Spiritual Temple

1 Peter 2:4 (NIV) As you come to him, the living Stone...

B. A **REJECTED** Stone

1 Peter 2:4 (NIV) As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God ...

C. A Stone that is **PRECIOUS** to God AND to those who believe
1 Peter 2:4 (NIV) As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him...

1 Peter 2:7 (NIV) Now to you who believe, this stone is precious.

2. The True Identity of Jesus’ Faithful Followers

1 Peter 2:5 (NIV) ... you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are The People of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- A. We are His Chosen People, His Treasured possession
- B. We are The People of God, a Holy nation
- C. We are being built into a new Spiritual temple of Worship
- D. We are being included in a new Holy priesthood as Royal Priests

What Are OUR Sacrificial Offerings?

1. Offering our Own **BODIES**—the totality of who I am—to God
Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

2. The Offerings of Doing Good to Others, Sharing Your Life and Possessions with Them, and with your lips Giving **PRAISE** to God.
Hebrews 13:15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.