

1 Peter 2:1-12 **Born Again – Living Evidence**

Dead to Sin – Choice of Priorities

¹ Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

The Living Stone – A Spiritual House

⁴ Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,

⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,

"Behold, I lay in Zion
A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."

⁷ Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient,

"The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone,"

⁸ and

"A stone of stumbling
And a rock of offense."

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

Chosen Generation

⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Living Before the World

¹¹ Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹² having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Dead to Sin – Choice of Priorities [1 Peter 2:1-3]

✠ Dead to sin we must lay aside all forms of evil, **malice**, all **deceit**, **hypocrisy**, **envy**, and all **evil speaking** (slandering gossip).

- ✠ Born again as newborn, we must desire Spiritual food by which to grow.
 - ✧ The pure milk of the Word.
 - ✧ This will be the natural desire if you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.
 - ✧ Those who have truly been born again have experienced the grace and mercy and love of the Lord that was extended to us by the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross to provide our Salvation.
 - ✧ This awareness will cause the believer to hunger for more understanding and move him to study the Word of God with a heart of love.

The Living Stone – A Spiritual House [1 Peter 2:4-8]

- ✠ Born again believers come to Jesus knowing that though He is rejected by men, He is chosen by God and precious both to God and to us.
 - ✧ In Christ, we are being built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.
 - ✧ As a holy priesthood, we offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
 - ✧ Jesus is the fulfillment of Scripture that says:

"Behold, I lay in Zion
A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." [Isaiah 28:16, Romans 9:33, 1 Peter 2:6]

- ✧ Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious.
- ✧ To those who are disobedient unbelievers, He is The Chief Cornerstone and an offense.
 - "The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone," [Psalm 118:22-23, Matthew 21:42, Mark 12:10, 1 Peter 2:7]

and

"A stone of stumbling
And a rock of offense." [Isaiah 8:14, Romans 9:32-33, 1 Peter 2:8]

- ✧ The unbelievers stumble because they refuse to obey the Word of God.
- ✧ They will receive the reward appointed for the unsaved.
- ✧ The choice is theirs, the destiny is appointed by God.

Chosen Generation [1 Peter 2:9-10]

- ✠ But **you** are a **chosen generation**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, **His own special people**, **that you may proclaim the praises of Him** who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.
 - ✧ From the very beginning, God has called His people to be a special holy people to be separate from the world, a position first offered to Israel, and now to the Church.
 - Now therefore, **if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant**, then you shall be a **special treasure to Me above all people**; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a **kingdom of priests** and a **holy nation**.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." [Exodus 19:5-6]
 - ✧ Before we knew the Lord of Glory, we were not any kind of a special people to obtain mercy.
 - ✧ After the new birth of faith, we are the people of God who have obtained mercy through Christ Jesus.
 - ✧ We have been called out of darkness and ignorance, into the marvelous light of the Gospel of truth, with the purpose that we proclaim the Praises of God through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Living Before the World [1 Peter 2:11-12]

‡ As Born Again Believers, we are required to view ourselves as pilgrims and sojourners in this world who have chosen to be a holy people.

✧ That choice is demonstrated by our lives as we abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul.

✧ Now we are called to conduct ourselves honorably among the Gentiles.

✧ The purpose is; that those who desire to accuse us as evildoers, will have to glorify God in the day of visitation, because of the good works our faith has achieved in their sight.

✧ Paul said it this way:

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. [\[Romans 8:1\]](#)