

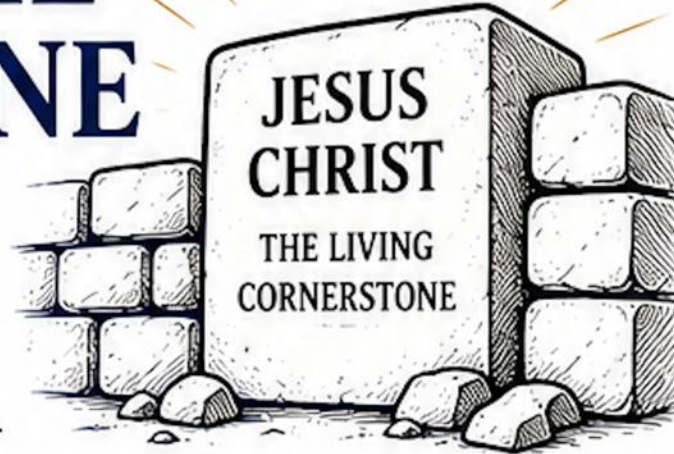


BUILT ON THE CORNERSTONE

1 PETER 2:4-10

A new origin. A new structure. A new people.

Peter calls believers to be living stones built on Jesus Christ, the living Cornerstone. Our response to Him determines whether we are built into God's family—or whether we stumble.



KEY VERSES

1 Peter 2:6
"Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded."

1 Peter 2:8
"And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient."

1 Peter 2:9
"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people..."

1 Peter 2:10
"Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

KEY TRUTHS

- Christ is the living Cornerstone.
- Every person will either build on Him or stumble over Him.
- Our response to the Word determines our outcome.
- God is building a new people from every nation.
- We are called to live holy and proclaim His excellencies.

GREEK WORD INSIGHTS

λίθος (lithos) – "Stone"
Refers to a single stone, here identifying Christ as the living Cornerstone (2:4-8).

γένος (genos) – "Race, People"
Not ethnicity, but a people from a shared origin—those born again by God's Word (2:9).

ἐτέθησαν (etethēsan) – "Were appointed/laid down"
Indicates a divinely determined outcome for those who disobey and stumble (2:8).

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Is Christ the Cornerstone of your life?
2. Are you building on the Word—or resisting it?
3. How are you living as a part of God's chosen people?
4. How can you build others up as living stones this week?

1 A NEW ORIGIN

Born Again by the Word
1:23; 2:1-3



- We are born again—not of corruptible seed, but of the incorruptible Word of God.
- This is not a reset; it is a new origin.
- We grow as spiritual infants when we remain in the Word.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word..." (2:2)

2 BUILT ON THE CORNERSTONE

The Stone of Life
2:4-8



- Jesus is the living Stone, rejected by men but chosen by God.
- He is the Cornerstone—laid in Zion by the Father.
- Some build on Him and are built up. Others stumble.
- The outcome is appointed (ἐτέθησαν).

"Whosoever shall not be ashamed of Him shall not be ashamed." (2:6)

3 A NEW PEOPLE

A Chosen Genos
2:9-10



- We are a chosen γένος (a people from a shared origin).
- Once "not a people," now God's people.
- Once "not shown mercy," now shown mercy.

"Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation..." (2:9)

BUILT ON THE STONE



Obey the Word
Trust and submit to Christ.



Built Together
Living stones fitted into a spiritual house.



Honored by God
A people for His praise.



Established
Secure, aligned, and steadfast.



"Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone." (2:6)

STUMBLING OVER THE STONE



Disobey the Word
Reject and resist Christ.



Broken Relationships
Collision, division, and isolation.



Dishonored
A stumbling block and rock of offense.



Destined to Fall
The end is appointed.

HOW IT CHANGES OUR LIVES



Faith
Trust Christ alone.



Family
Love and build one another up.



Holiness
Live as God's set-apart people.



Witness
Proclaim His excellencies.



Mission
A people for all nations.



Service
Use spiritual gifts to build others.



We are living stones built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (2:5)



THE BOTTOM LINE

God has given us a new origin through the Word, built us on the Cornerstone, and placed us in a new people for His glory. Each decision either builds or breaks—but the outcome is not random. It is appointed by God.



TEACHER NOTE

Use this chart to help learners see the big picture of 1 Peter 2:4-10. Emphasize that our identity comes from God's mercy, our foundation is Christ, and our calling is holy living.