1 PETER 2:1-10

- 1, Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Clear your mind and focus on your relationship with Christ.
- 2, Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, Seek the word of Christ and let it nourish your spirit.
- 3, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Now that you have received the spiritual rebirth and know the truth of the Lord.

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

- **4,** As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—**You have accepted Christ, rejected by people but chosen by and loved by God.**
- **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.
- A. You are in Christ and Christ is in you.
- B. You are the stones that are building the church on the foundation of Christ.
- C. You are sacrificing your will to be of the earth in order to be sanctified in 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."
- Scripture reveals Gods promise of a special holy relationship with those who believe and trust in Christ.
- **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 cornerstone,"
- To those who believe, Christ means stability forever. A living stone not a lifeless stone idol.
- **8,** and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.
- Those who refuse the message are destined for instability and eternal separation from the grace of God.
- 9, But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
- The Church is the chosen people, priesthood, holy nation, and special possession. You were called out of this world of darkness and into the light. You are by this heirs to the promise and blessings of the Church.
- **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.
- Now you have salvation and eternal Holy Fellowship.