

1 Peter 2:4-10 God's Chiseled Body

6/21/09 - The Exchange

I. Review

- A. Reminded to desire the pure word of God instead of the junk food of the flesh.
- B. We are being chiseled by God into something that brings Him glory.
- C. Reminding of who/what we are/can be. Gets very practical soon.

II. 2:4

- A. coming - actively, y'all. Are you/we coming to Him or are you just around Him?
- B. living stone - lively, active, enduring, not dead, inactive. In this context a building stone, chiseled and shaped. Contradictory?
 - 1. Living sacrifices Rom 12:1,
 - 2. We have a living hope because Jesus lives 1 Peter 1:3
 - 3. The word of God lives because it's God-breathed 1:23.
- C. rejected - as the result of examination and testing based on qualifications and standards. To regard as unworthy, reject as not genuine. But why?
 - 1. The world doesn't understand who or what He is. Teacher, guide, Christ consciousness, etc. Not God or His Son. Can't truth the Bible anyway. Why don't they see this?
 - 2. The world has its own, therefore incorrect, set of qualifications and standards. "If He is that, why didn't He do it this way?"
 - 3. 1 Cor. 1:18-25. Whose standards? God's.
- D. chosen and precious - selected to do something, of great value. That's how God sees Jesus, and us in Him.

III. 2:5

- A. you also, as living stones - Why does this all seem so hard? Why the trials? Because we are all blockheads.
 - 1. Walk through Temple stone cutting process. Cut out of world.
 - 2. Stones sit and wait (submission) until someone does something with them.
 - 3. We are being chiseled and shaped by God. Trials and testing. A little attitude off here, some self-reliance there.
 - 4. We are being shaped into something like Jesus. Are you?
 - 5. Master sculptor's quote. That's what God does with us. Why?
- B. being built up - Present. Who is doing the building; us or God?
 - 1. For a purpose, for a place, fit together.
 - 2. We rest on the strength of others, while others rest on us.
 - 3. What can we do? Provide some material. Reading.
- C. a spiritual house
 - 1. What kind of house; natural or spiritual?
 - 2. What's another name for a spiritual house? A temple. Seven times called that in the NT. Applies individually and corporately.
 - 3. Whose house; ours or God's? The rights of a guest vs. the rights of an owner. Gal 2:20, abiding in Him, He in us.
 - 4. We are God's chiseled body. God is the architect.
- D. a holy priesthood - those whose lives are devoted to living before and serving God.

- E. **spiritual sacrifices** - like what? Ourselves, things that are idols in us.
- F. All of this is collective, a community.
 - 1. WE are the stones in the house. We need to receive and give strength to one another. Can't do that unless we make it a priority. Submissive rock? Whose house?
 - 2. WE are the priesthood. Our lives are completely given over to serving Him, glorifying Him, and leading others into the same.
 - 3. Personal relationship, not individualistic. Not my faith on my terms. No lone stone can claim to be part of the building.
- IV. **2:6-10 Survey.**
 - A. **special people** - purchased possession
 - B. **obtained mercy** - obtained because God has shown it. We have been mercied (as a verb).
 - C. Look what we get to be and get to do!
 - D. Just as Christ was rejected, so to will we be by people, but accepted by God (v. 5).
 - E. Gospel.
- V. Closing
 - A. Now it gets very real. As a stone submits, we will talk about areas we need to be real and be submissive with Jesus as our example.
 - B. **We are being chiseled by God into something that brings Him glory.**
 - C. Are you submitting to that process? Are you letting him chip off the extra pieces? Does it feel more like dynamite or a jack hammer?
 - D. Let the master builder shape you and place you.