

Proclaim the Glory of Christ

Strangers and Aliens

1 Peter 2:4-10

January 26, 2020

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Context:

Peter is writing to displaced Christians in the 1st Century. They were forced to flee Rome and were under increasing persecution. The goal of the letter is to remind his readers that they could stay faithful under persecution and enjoy their salvation.

The focus in this passage is on Jesus Christ as the Cornerstone of the Church. Peter outlines the Lord's glory and reminds his brothers and sisters that their hope is built on Him. And we too, can trust this truth. No matter where we live, and how uncomfortable things get, Jesus doesn't change. His majesty and power never waver. Let's set out to proclaim the glory of Christ!

Key Scripture -

1 Peter 2:4-10

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Peter describes Jesus as a Cornerstone on which the entire church rests. Why is it important to remember that the Church is supported by Christ? Does this truth increase your desire to be a part of a local church? Why or why not?
2. Peter describes believers, using many of the same terms he used for the Lord. We are “living stones” and “priests” of a “spiritual house.” The responsibility to reach our world doesn’t rest on paid clergy but rather on each Christian who makes up the Church. What ways can you begin to help grow our church and reach out to tell non-believers about Christ’s glory?
3. Our culture is sometimes chaotic and is moving away from biblical values. How does the amazing glory of Christ comfort you during these times? Can you spend a few minutes and thank him for choosing you to be a Christian?

NEXT WEEK’S TOPIC

1 Peter 2:11-3:12 – Submit to government, submit to masters, and fulfill family roles as an example to non-believers.

