

*THE OBEDIENCE AND HONOR OF LIVING STONES
IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD*

LIVING STONES



APPROVED

BY GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST



REJECTED

BY THE HUMAN BUILDERS

LIVING STONES / SPIRITUAL HOUSE / HOLY PRIESTHOOD

AN OUTLINE & OVERVIEW of 1 Peter 1:1–2:8

1. *According to God's mercy we have been born again to a living hope, 1:1-5.*

- (1 Peter 1:1–5 ESV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, **he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

(1 Peter 1:3 ESV)
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, **he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. 10 Concerning this

salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, 11 inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. 12 It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you,

in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

(1 Peter 1:13 ESV)
Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, **set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

3. *As obedient children we are to set our hope fully on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 1:13.*

- (1 Peter 1:13 ESV) Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, **set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

2. *Because of our living hope we now have the opportunity to prove the genuineness of our faith and bring God praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 1:6-12.*

- (1 Peter 1:6–12 ESV) In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and

(1 Peter 2:5 ESV)
You 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.**

4. *As obedient children we are to turn away from the passions and the hope of the old life and turn to God in holiness, 1:14-21.*

- (1 Peter 1:14–21 ESV) As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all

your conduct, 16 since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” 17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, 18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you 21 who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

5. As obedient children who have purified our souls in obedience to the gospel, we are to sincerely and earnestly love the family of God from a pure heart through the living and abiding word of God, 1:22-25.

- (1 Peter 1:22–25 ESV) Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25 but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

6. As obedient children we are to continue to put away all remnants of the old life that deceive our hearts and corrupt our understanding of the goodness of the Lord, 2:1.

- (1 Peter 2:1 ESV) So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

7. As those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, we are, like newborn infants, to long for the pure unadulterated word of God and grow up into our salvation, 2:2-3.

- (1 Peter 2:2–3 ESV) Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

8. As obedient children we continue to come to God, to receive our identify from God and become transformed by God into his holy priesthood now able to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ, 2:4-6.

- (1 Peter 2:4–6 ESV) As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 **you 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.** 6 For 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.”

9. As obedient children we receive honor, approval and acceptance from God through our standing as chosen and precious living stones, 2:7.

- (1 Peter 2:7 ESV) So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”

10. Disobedient children stumble as they were destined to do, 2:8.

- (1 Peter 2:8 ESV) and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.



REJECTED AND HATED BY THE WORLD

- (John 17:14-17 ESV) I have given them your word, and **the world has hated them because they are not of the world**, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 **They are not of the world**, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.



APPROVED AND LOVED BY GOD

GOD'S WORD ... WE ARE LIVING STONES WHO ARE CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND GIVEN A PLACE OF HIGH HONOR.

- (1 Peter 2:4 ESV) As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God **chosen** and **precious**.
- (1 Peter 2:7 ESV) So the **honor** is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

Questions then ...

1. *What group of people does God in the Bible consistently call us to love more than any other? Those in our community, our families or those in our church family?*
2. *So why then do we sometimes put the majority of our time and effort into friendships with those who are outside of the body of Christ?*
3. *And which group would the devil be most likely to try turn us away from?*