



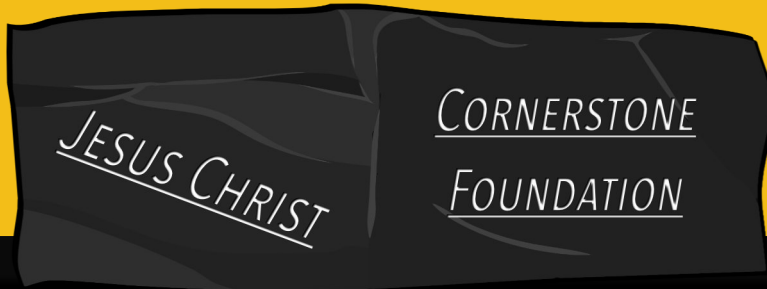
For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
(Ephesians 2:10 NIV)



SPIRITUAL HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



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."
(1 Peter 2:6 ESV)



OUTLINE & NOTES FOR 1 PETER 2:4-12

1. BECOMING THE PEOPLE OF GOD (2:4-6) ...

When we come to Christ, we become the people of God. As we come to—draw near to, approach—Christ, God reveals our identity by his word and by his work in our lives to all who have eyes to see.

- (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.”

Two key questions concerning our coming to Christ. When does this happen? And what is happening?

A. WHEN DOES THIS HAPPEN?

This is the work of God that began when we first believed—justified, saved—and continues as we continue coming to him—sanctified, continue to be saved forever.

Cross-references for “As you come to him” ... “come to” means to draw near, approach ...

- (Hebrews 4:16 ESV) Let us then with confidence **draw near** to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- (Hebrews 7:25 ESV) Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who **draw near** to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.
- (Hebrews 10:22 ESV) Let us **draw near**

Could we be oblivious to this **continuing** work of God in our lives? **NO!**

If you are unaware of the work of God in your life it is because God is not working in your life and the only reason that God is not working in your life is because he is not in your life.

with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- (Hebrews 11:6 ESV) And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would **draw near** to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

B. WHAT HAPPENS AND IS HAPPENING?

Justified ... we are given our place and position in the kingdom of God in Christ ...

- i. We come to (draw near, approach) Christ and God makes us to be, and identifies us as, chosen and precious in the sight of God.

Sanctified ... the continuing ongoing work of God that points toward God's ultimate goal for our lives—our glorification ...

- ii. We **continue** to come to (draw near, approach) Christ and God makes us to be, and identifies us as, living stones by which God is building a spiritual house.
- iii. We **continue** to come to (draw near, approach) Christ and God makes us to be, and identifies us as, a holy priesthood.
- iv. We **continue** to come to (draw near, approach) Christ and offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2. RECEIVING GOD'S HONOR AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD (2:7-8) ...

We receive the honor of being identified with Christ and blessed by God through Christ by believing in Christ. This honor is entirely by the grace of God from his decision of mercy to choose us as his own and is ours because upon encountering Christ we believed.

- (1 Peter 2:7–8 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,” 8 and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of

offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

- (Ephesians 1:3 ESV) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

******Peter Davids** ... As people move toward the future, then, Jesus encounters them. This encounter can have two results. The “stone” in their way is either a foundation stone to which they can commit themselves without any concern over being let down, or it is the “stone” which, due to their rejection and God’s eventual exaltation, leads to their fall. They must, however, encounter the stone—it lies in their path. The difference in the manner of their encounter is due to their faith. **[END QUOTE]** [Davids, P. H. (1990). *The First Epistle of Peter* (pp. 89–90). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.]

- (Psalm 118:19–24 ESV) Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 **The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.** 23 This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- (Acts 4:8–12 ESV) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11 **This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.** 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

- (Isaiah 28:15–19 NIV) You boast, “We have entered into a covenant with death, with the realm of the dead we have made an agreement. When an overwhelming scourge sweeps by, it cannot touch us, for we have made a lie our refuge and falsehood our hiding place.” 16 **So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic.** 17 I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plumb line; hail will sweep away your refuge, the lie, and water will overflow your hiding place. 18 Your covenant with death will be annulled; your agreement with the realm of the dead will not stand. When the overwhelming scourge sweeps by, you will be beaten down by it. 19 As often as it comes it will carry you away; morning after morning, by day and by night, it will sweep through.” The understanding of this message will bring sheer terror.

******Edmund Clowney** ... **cornerstone** ...

Isaiah speaks the word of the Lord against the princes of Jerusalem who foolishly suppose that their city is secure against the threat of invasion. They speak as though they had a treaty with death and hell so that the lethal waters of the abyss could never sweep over them. God declares that their pride is no refuge, their covenant with death no security. **Only one edifice can stand against the storm of destruction: God’s building, established upon one sure foundation stone.**

It is this figure that Jesus used when he said to Peter that the gates of hell could not prevail against his church. In the word of Jesus, he was himself the builder and Peter an apostolic rock of foundation; in the figure that Peter takes from Isaiah, Christ is the precious and tested cornerstone. **[END QUOTE]** [Clowney, E. P. (1988). *The message of 1 Peter: the way of the cross* (pp. 83–84). Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.]

- (Matthew 16:13–18 ESV) Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi,

he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14 And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered him,

“Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 **And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**”

Christ will build his Church ... Peter's calling (as is ours in a lesser way) was that he was to be used by Christ to build his Church ... our Lord will use his people to build but we must never forget who does the building ...

3. ANSWERING GOD'S CALL AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD (2:9-10) ...

The people of God answer the call of God. In answering his call we affirm our identity in Christ—who God describes us to be in his word. In answering his call we fulfill God's stated purpose for our lives—We proclaim the excellencies of God.

- (1 Peter 2:9–10 ESV) But 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. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
- A. God has given us great honor and has made us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession.
- B. We honor God and our calling as we proclaim his excellencies in calling us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

- C. We honor God and our calling as we live as people who have received the mercy of God.

4. HEARING GOD'S CALL TO ARMS AND WAGING WAR AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD (2:11-12) ...

The people of God honor God when we hear and heed his warning to distance ourselves from the old ways. Those who honor their calling as the people of God know that there is an ongoing war against the soul that does not end until we meet our Lord Jesus.

- (1 Peter 2:11–12 ESV) Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.
- A. We honor God and our calling as we abstain from—refrain from, distance ourselves from—the desires that originate from our earthiness and humanness which stand apart from and contrary to walking by the Spirit of God and the word of God.
 - (Galatians 5:16–17 ESV) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.
 - (Galatians 5:24 ESV) And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- B. We dishonor God if we do not distance ourselves from the old ways, and we will be defeated by sin and the devil in the depths of our being and will lose the “soul battle” that we wage daily while on this earth.