

A Right Relationship With the Son of God 1 Peter 2:4-10 (Part 4)

I. Introduction

A. As finish this section – on right relationship with Son of God - talk about

1. the security of our Relationship
2. AND the Preciousness of that relationship

B. Where do we often see an exuberance of life and preciousness? New Believers

C. THE APPLICATION is FOR ALL of US

1. RENEW the PRECIOUSNESS of WHAT WE HAVE in JESUS CHRIST
2. He is to be OUR FIRST LOVE!
3. Let us DRAW NEAR to the THRONE of GRACE and
 - a) CONFESS our DULLNESS of FAITH and
 - b) OPEN OUR HEARTS and MINDS
 (1) WITH LOVE WE HAVE FOR our PRECIOUS Savior!

D. Turn to 1 Peter 2 and read 4-10

4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious [stone] in the sight of God,

5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 For this is contained in Scripture:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.”

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, “The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone.”

8 and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”;

for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

E. Proposition: The elements of - a right relationship with the Son of God is

1. Through the word of Christ
2. Because of who He is
3. Based on Continuously drawing near to the Christ of the Word!
4. Secure in God
5. Precious to Believers

II. A right relationship with the Son of God is Through the word of Christ

2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

3 if (since) you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God,

III. A right relationship with the Son of God is because of who He is

A. He's a living stone, we are "as living stones"

1. Point: I am ONLY as a LIVING STONE because I AM IN HIM who is A LIVING STONE

B. He's elect of God, we are elect of God

C. And of course: 1 Peter 2:9...

1. "[A royal Priesthood](#)"
 - a) He's king and makes us royalty!
 - b) He's the High priest and we become priests (also seen in v.5)
2. "[holy](#)" – He's holy – we become Holy
3. He's God's possession – We're God's possession!
4. Jesus proclaimed the excellencies of His Father – Now we do it!

D. The **WHOLE** point of this passage **TO US: EVERYTHING THAT WE ARE IS BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS.**

IV. THIRD - A right relationship with the Son of God is based on Continuously drawing near to the Christ of the Word! (vs. forever rejected)

1 Peter 2:4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God,

A. "[And Coming](#)" = "[Continuously coming](#)" = "[Continuously drawing near](#)"

1. WORD means to COME and STAY = DRAW NEAR
 - a) Usage in HEBREWS!= "draw near"

[16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace](#)
2. EMPHASIZE on continuousness and drawing near / staying / abiding
3. You're being told to CONTINUOUSLY DRAW NEAR to CHRIST - THROUGH HIS WORD!

B. [DRAW NEAR](#) – (rest of verse) "[To Him \[Jesus Christ\] as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God](#)"

C. Transition: A right relationship with the Son of God

1. Through the Word of Christ
2. Because of Who He is
3. Based on Continuously drawing near to the Christ of the Word
4. is building you up as living stones.

V. A right relationship with the Son of God is building you up as living stones.

1 Peter 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For this is contained in Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed."

A. Flow

1. 2:4 TRANSITIONS from the WORD to CHRIST and Peter SAYS
2. AND – It's the ONLY verse in this section FOCUSED on US!

B. Let's look at this! V.5

1. you also, as living stones,
2. are being built up
 - a) previous command context SWITCHES now to INSTRUCTIONAL / DOCTRINAL teaching on our POSTION!
 - b) Passive – GOD IS BUILDING
 - c) Verb means "to build a house!"
3. as a spiritual house
 - a) "Spiritual House" = figurative description of the CHURCH as a TEMPLE.
 - (1) = NATURE of the Church – it is a spiritual house
 - b) Today we say – no big deal!
 - c) Eph 2:19-22 same thing:

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.
4. for a holy priesthood,
 - a) "Holy priesthood" PORTRAYS the FUNCTION of the church.
 - b) SETS OUT one VITAL aspect of this PRIESTHOOD – IT IS HOLY!= set apart for God
 - c) What IS a "priest"?
 - (1) Priest is an OFFICE (not a gift) FOR ALL BELIEVERS
 - (a) It is an office just like the Aaronic priesthood – BORN INTO at SALVATION
 - (2) Priest is someone who has access to God!
 - (a) OT: ONLY the priests went in Holy Place –
 - (i) ONLY the HIGH PRIEST into the HOLY of HOLIES! – ONCE a YEAR.
 - (b) But Jesus tore the VEIL – SO ALL PRIESTS HAVE ACCESS – ALL THE TIME

(c) SO – we...HAVE ACCESS!

Hebrews 4:14,16; 10:19-22
14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession...
16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

d) WHAT do HOLY PRIESTS DO?...

5. to offer up spiritual sacrifices

a) Sacrifices:

(1) Present your Bodies (Rom 12:1-2)

1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

(2) Sacrifice of Praise (Heb 13:15)

15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

(a) Praise is a FORM OF FRUIT that we bear to God!

(b) AND Praise is a SACRIFICE

(3) Doing good and sharing (Heb 13:16; Phil 4:18)

(a) = ANY Righteous act

(4) Sacrificial Love (Eph 5:2; Phil 2:17)

(5) Sacrifice of Prayer (Rev 8:3-4)

6. acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

C. Transition: A right relationship with the Son of God

1. Through the Word of Christ
2. Because of Who He is
3. Based on Continuously drawing near to the Christ of the Word
4. is building you up as living stones.
5. Secure in God

VI. A right relationship with the Son of God is Secure in God (v.6)

1 Peter 2:5-6 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
6 FOR this is contained in Scripture: "Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone,
And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed."

A. "For" = Because = You can count on everything I just told you BECAUSE "...I lay in Zion a choice stone, precious corner stone..."

1. "For" is not a literal translation – but captures the intent of Peter
2. NKJ uses "therefore"
3. Actually a compound word using "By way of / through" and "because"

B. “this is contained in Scripture:”

1. “contained” NOT “written”
2. WORD focuses on the CONTENT
3. Also – NO ARTICLE with “Scripture”
 - a) Just “In Scripture
 - b) ONLY place in NT without an article
 - c) I.e. all other places = “the Scriptures”
 - (1) 50 total uses and ONLY ONE without “the”
 - (2) So what?
4. Peter is NOT DIRECTLY QUOTING
 - a) EMPHASIZING the TRUTH of what the OT is teaching.
 - b) Truth DEMONSTRATED in the OT
5. “Because the TRUTH from the OT is...”
6. Mainly BUT NOT EXACTLY QUOTES IS 28:16

C. “Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone.”

1. “I lay in Zion”
 - a) 7X in NT
 - b) can mean
 - (1) City of David
 - (2) Mount Zion
 - (3) Isaiah- the center of God’s purposes and the embodiment of all the royal promises
 - (a) = city that summons it’s inhabitants to faith
 - (b) =figuratively: the realm of the new covenant of Grace (Sinai was the old)
 - c) Peter is emphasizing the last usage – the new covenant through Jesus Christ.
 - d) “Behold I lay a new covenant of grace – a choice stone...”
2. Stone = Jesus Christ = Living Stone of v.4
 - a) =the one we continuously come to!
3. Choice = elect
 - a) We’ve talked much about this!
4. Notice then – PRECIOUS – same as v.4
 - a) 2X - This stone is PRECIOUS to God!
 - b) Luke 7:2 2 And a centurion’s slave, who was highly regarded [=precious] by him, was sick and about to die.
 - (1) The “highly regarded slave”
 - c) Luke 14:88 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him,
 - (1) The “more distinguished” guest

d) Here – Christ’s HONORED and HIGH RANKING POSITION in the sight of God

5. corner stone,

- a) means lying at the extreme angle
- b) =Sets all the angles for the building
- c) The better the cornerstone, the better the building!
- d) Jesus Christ is God’s choice, precious stone
- e) The CHURCH will be the PERFECT HOUSEHOLD OF GOD because JESUS CHRIST is the CORNERSTONE!

D. And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.”

1. “believes” is the common verb for belief – over 250 uses in NT.
 - a) Same thing as saying “Christians will not be disappointed.
2. “will not be disappointed”
 - a) VERY STRONG verb
 - b) A “strengthened negative”
 - (1) Says what will NOT HAPPEN to Christians
 - c) Grammatical form “Litotes” (LIE ti tees)
 - A figure of speech consisting of an understatement in which an affirmative is expressed by negating its opposite, as in *This is no small problem.*
 - d) STRONG UNDERSTATEMENT!
3. Verb really means “NOT BE PUT TO SHAME”
 - a) Which is the appropriate UNDERSTATED CONTRAST TO REALITY.
4. Remember 1 Peter 1:7?
 - a) What awaits you is PRAISE, HONOR, and GLORY for your FAITH!
 - b) EXTREME OPPOSITE to SHAME.
 - c) Your SHAME is at the FOOT OF THE CROSS
 - d) Awaiting you is GLORY!
 - e) hence, the UNDERSTATEMENT!
5. Also – as believers WE KNOW that SHAME IS WHAT AWAITS those who REJECTED the cornerstone!
6. Almost sense an INSIDE joke here – a jab!
 - a) “You’re not the ones who are going to be put to shame!”
 - b) Implication that THEY ARE!
7. Synonym / another form of same verb is in
 - a) 1 Peter 3:16
 - 16 and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.
 - b) 1 Peter 4:16
 - 16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

E. What GREAT SECURITY!

1. Look back at v.6
2. “for” – EVERYTHING said above IS TRUE because
3. THE TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE is that
4. GOD put the CHOICE, PRECIOUS CORNERSTONE in place
5. AND YOU'RE NOT THE ONES WHO ARE GOING TO BE PUT TO SHAME!!!

F. TRANSITION: LOOK at the PROGRESSION here

1. ONE to whom YOU CONTINUOUSLY COME TO
2. IS the ONE WITH WHOM God is BUILDING you UP INTO A SPIRITUAL HOUSE
3. WITH GREAT SECURITY in this RELATIONSHIP
4. Is it NO SURPRISE THEN that it follows that NEXT:

VII. A right relationship with the Son of God is Precious to Believers

Look at V.7-8!

6 For this is contained in Scripture:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone,
And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.”

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,
“The stone which the builders rejected,
This became the very corner stone,”

8 and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”;
for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they
were also appointed.

A. “This precious value, then, is for you who believe” = “To you who believe, HE IS PRECIOUS!”

1. Twice told that He is precious to God – Now told He is precious to us!
2. Makes a lot of sense to me – The one who removes the eternity in hell that I deserve AND then without merit BUILDS me INTO all THOSE WONDERFUL things – PRECIOUS!

B. 2 Sides to PRECIOUS in this VERSE

- Precious = Value, Affection “He is precious”
- Honor to Christians vs. shame to non-Believers at times of judgment.

1. “precious” Literally = “honor”
 - a) Usual word when Christ given “honor and glory and dominion” verses (1 Tim 1:17; Rev 5:13; 7:12)
 - b) Word for honor given to Christians (Rom 2:10; 1 Peter 1:7)
 - (1) Romans 2:10;
 - 10 but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

(2) 1 Peter 1:7

7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

2. Interesting construction in 1 Peter 2:7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe;

a) First – He is precious

b) Second – Honor to Christians vs. shame to non-Believers at times of judgment.

C. FIRST – HE IS PRECIOUS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE

1. Characteristic of a Christian! – Christ is precious!

2. Preciousness seen in Love for Jesus Christ

a) John 8:42

42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father(= IF YOU WERE TRULY A BELIEVER IN ME!), you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me.

b) John 16:27

27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.

c) Matthew 10:37 – SURPASSING LOVE for JC!

37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

3. Preciousness seen in HONOR for Jesus Christ!

a) Same as v.4,6 TO GOD!

(1) 2X - This stone is PRECIOUS to God!

(2) Luke 7:2 2 And a centurion’s slave, who was highly regarded [=precious] by him, was sick and about to die.

(a) The “highly regarded slave”

(3) Luke 14:88 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him,

(a) The “more distinguished” guest

**b) Here: Christ’s HONORED / HIGH RANKING POSITION in to BELIEVERS!
- goto Heb 3:1**

c) Hebrews 3:1-6

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;

2 He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house.

3 For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

4 For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.

5 Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those

things which were to be spoken later;

6 but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

- (1) Jesus Christ is MORE PRECIOUS than Moses!
- (2) “counted worthy of more glory!”
- (3) Has higher position because HE IS GOD –
- (4) BUILDER OF THE HOUSE has MORE HONOR than the HOUSE!
- (5) As Peter said – THERE IS NO OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN!

D. SECOND – HE WILL GIVE HONOR to THOSE WHO BELIEVE

1. = Honor that IS CHRIST’S that we POSSESS because we are IN CHRIST
2. One author: “The honor which Christ has by virtue of God’s choice is imparted to and shared by all believers. Far from being put to shame, the believer has honor with Christ!”
3. Word is in EMPHATIC position – FIRST IN THE PHRASE
 - a) EMPHASIS that we do not share the SAME FATE as the UNBELIEVER
4. This honor to be bestowed at the Bema seat, right? (2 Cor 5:10)
5. Where we are rewarded according to 1 Cor 3:11-15 – where our works are tested by fire and result in rewards – like we saw in 1 Peter 1:7

E. ALL OF THIS PRECIOUSNESS is CONTRASTED to those who REJECT CHRIST...

1 Peter 2:7-8 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, “The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner stone,”⁸ and, “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

1. **“A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”**
 - a) Two different words here
 - (1) Stone of stumbling = small stumbling stone
 - (2) Rock of offense = large crushing rock = Christ, the crushing stone
 - b) Luke 20:18 (from Is 8:13-15)

18 “Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust.”
2. **for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word,**
 - a) This tells us WHY they stumbled!
 - b) They were disobedient to “the word” = the gospel!
 - c) One Author: “Christ is the Great Unavoidable – you will come to the Rock – honored or stumbling!”
3. **and to this doom they were also appointed.**
 - a) = They got exactly what their choice demanded
 - b) DOES NOT SAY – predestined to hell
 - c) APPOINTMENT is to DOOM NOT to the STUMBLING!

F. BLACK CONTRAST to the Brilliance of what we have as Believers

1. A SAVIOR WE CALL "PRECIOUS"
2. AWAITING HONOR FROM HIM – the sharing of HIS HONOR that we do not deserve
3. AND all of this SECURE in the WORK of the FATHER who LAID the Choice, precious Cornerstone
4. AND in the SON who has SET PERFECT ANGLES for the building of the CHURCH
 - a) With HIS PERFECT WORK on the CROSS
 - b) And HIS PERFECT INTECESSORY WORK in HEAVEN!

G. SO CONCLUDES 4 WEEKS on a RIGHT RELATIONSHIP with the SON of GOD!**VIII. THE APPLICATION is FOR ALL of US**

1. RENEW the PRECIOUSNESS of WHAT WE HAVE in JESUS CHRIST
2. He is to be OUR FIRST LOVE!
3. Let us DRAW NEAR to the THRONE of GRACE and
 - a) CONFESS our DULLNESS of FAITH and
 - b) OPEN OUR HEARTS and MINDS
 - (1) WITH LOVE WE HAVE FOR our PRECIOUS Savior!