



Living Stones

1 Peter 2:1-5
Oak Hollow church of Christ

1 Peter - Intro

- Audience
 - This book was written primarily to “newly begotten” Gentiles Christians that were “dispersed” throughout Asia as a result of persecution at the hands of the Romans, led by their Emperor Nero - (1:1)
- Purpose
 - This book was written to encourage these Christians as they endured this persecution, and to exhort them to continue to live lives that were “holy” and “honorable” in the face of persecution, so that they may receive the gift of God’s grace - their salvation (1:6-9 ; 1:13; 2:11-12)

1 Peter 2:1-5

1 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious. 4 Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

“Lay Aside” and “Grow”

- Throughout the first chapter, there is a continuous reference to these Christians that they are living a life that has been totally, and radically changed.
 - 1 Peter 1: 3-5, 13-15, 17-19, 22-23; Romans 6: 5-11
- Having undergone this transformation, Peter encourages them first to continue in their faith, laying aside their former conduct, and to pursue holiness, taught to them and sustaining them like milk to a newborn baby in the form of God's word (2:2-3)

The Identity of the Christian

- “A living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious” (2:4)
 - “Rejected by men” - John 15:18-21
 - “Chosen by God” - Ephesians 1:4-6
 - “Precious” - Luke 15

The Identity of the Christian (cont'd)

- “A spiritual house, a holy priesthood” (2:5a)
 - Built on the “chief cornerstone” - Ephesians 2:20
 - Built of “living stones” - 1 Cor. 12:12-14 ; Ephesians 2:21
 - Built to “offer up spiritual sacrifices” - Romans 12

