

“Our Identity” - 1 Peter 2:1-10

Ask - How would you identify yourself to someone else?

Background - In the previous verses Peter has been describing many practices that Christians should follow. But why? Because the things we do reflect who (or whose) we are. In today’s lesson, Peter talks about our identity in Christ.

“As Newborn Babies” - 1 Peter 2:1-3

(v1) What 5 things does Peter list in this verse for Christians to “put aside”? Define each of them.

(v2) What does Peter tell his readers to do and why? What comparisons does he make to illustrate his point?

(v3) They can only grow in salvation if they have first done what? What does the kindness of the Lord refer to?

PETER TELLS BELIEVERS PUT ASIDE THEIR PAST WAYS AND, LIKE NEWBORN BABIES, LONG FOR THE PURE MILK OF GOD’S WORD.

“As Living Stones” - 1 Peter 2:4-6

(v4-5) What does Peter mean by calling believers “living stones”? Discuss. What is the purpose of the stones? How are they valued by God and the world?

(v6) Read Isaiah 28:16. Who is the chief cornerstone that does not disappoint?

PETER DESCRIBES BELIEVERS AS LIVING STONES, WHO TOGETHER WITH THE CORNERSTONE JESUS CHRIST, ARE BEING BUILT UP AS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE.

“For Those Who Disbelieve ” - 1 Peter 2:7-8

(v7) Read Psalm 118:22 and Matthew 21:42-46. Who were the builders and in what sense did they reject the cornerstone?

(v8) Read Isaiah 8:14. Why will those who reject Christ stumble? Did God foreknow this would happen?

PETER SAID THAT SOME HAD REJECTED JESUS (THE CORNERSTONE) AND HAD STUMBLER AS A RESULT.

“As a Royal Priesthood” - 1 Peter 2:9-10

(v9) What 4 names are used to describe Christians in this verse? Discuss each. What are Christians called to do?

(v10) What are the 2 before and after statements given in this verse. Explain the meaning of each.

PETER EXPLAINS THAT CHRISTIANS ARE PART OF A SPECIAL GROUP - GOD'S VERY OWN POSSESSION. THEY ARE CALLED FOR A PURPOSE.

Application - Peter describes Christians as newborn babies longing for the pure milk of God's word, as living stones being built up into a spiritual house, and as a royal priesthood declaring the excellencies of God. Which of these descriptions is most appealing to you and why?