



TIME OF GRACE®

Grace notes

guides for personal Bible study

Claim Your Royal Identity

1 Peter 2:4-10: ⁴“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

‘See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.’

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,
‘The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,’

⁸and,
‘A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.’

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

Points to Ponder

1. Can you list the three different ways the word *priest* is used in the Bible? (Hint: think Old Testament, New Testament, and today.)

2. **Read 1 Peter 2:4.** What does it mean that Jesus is the “living Stone”? What comfort do you get from that?

3. This passage talks about us as living stones as well and that we are being built into a spiritual house. In what way is “stone” a better descriptor than “brick”? And why is it important that we are stones? How does God use us?

4. With Jesus as our cornerstone, our way to heaven is secure. But how is Jesus also a stumbling block to some as 1 Peter 2:8 says?

5. In what ways can we as God’s children show that we are claiming our royal identity?

In mercy, God calls us his chosen people and royal priests, and we claim that title with gratitude. We are priests of God in our daily lives, and we have a priestly ministry to share with others that there is a Savior who gave his life for our forgiveness and now daily intercedes for us as our ultimate go-between.

What else does God say?

John 15:16: You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

Revelation 1:5,6: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.