

“A Spiritual House”

Intro: In 1 Peter 2:4-5, we will hear of the _____ and _____ of the Christian. As we read we will see that Peter compares us to a house and so, we will consider what kind of house the Lord is building, and for what _____ the house exists.

A. Edmond Clowney writes, Peter “wants to show the status that Christians have as the true people of God, so that he may encourage us to _____ before the world” and before God “with that _____.”

1 Peter 2:4-5

I. “And coming to _____ ...”

A. As is revealed in the previous verse, the “Him” that is being referred to is the Lord Jesus _____. The rest of what is written in our text depends upon this one thing: that we come to Christ _____ as our Lord!

B. The word “coming” is from a compound verb that speaks of much more than a mere coming close to Christ for salvation, but it is a very _____ word that refers to an embracing and a _____ together with the intent to abide in a _____ relationship.

1. “Coming to Him” is _____ in Christ to the point that one hands their soul over to Him to do with as it pleases Him; trusting in and _____ to Him come what may.

II. “... as to a _____ ...”

A. In pointing to Christ, Isaiah wrote, 28:16, “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly _____ for the foundation, firmly placed. He who _____ in it will not be disturbed.”

1. “According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a _____, and another is building upon it. But let each man be careful how he builds upon it. 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is _____ Christ” (1 Cor 3:10-11). Jesus is the chief cornerstone of the Temple of God - the _____.

B. Thus He is called a _____ stone. Though Christ came to earth, having emptied Himself and being made in the likeness of men and humbling Himself to the point of death by dying on the cross, He _____ by the power of God and is now seated at the right hand of the Father.

III. Jesus is “... _____ and precious in the sight of God ...”

A. The word “choice” is the same word from which we get “_____.”

1. Spiros Zodhiates writes, “... the stone is the Lord _____ Christ as the one _____ of God the Father to accomplish the work of redemption for sinful man.”

B. "Precious" means: _____ regarded, esteemed, dear, prized, extremely _____.

IV. "... _____ also, as _____ stones ..."

A. Here then is the divine dignity - the awesome privilege of knowing Christ as Lord: those who have come to Christ as to a living stone have, through their _____ with Christ, also become living stones. Having come in faith the believer enters into the _____ of Christ. Because He lives, we _____!

V. "... are being built up as a _____ ..."

A. 1 Cor 6:19, "... do you not know that your body is a _____ of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from _____ ... ?" 2 Cor 6:16 says, "For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will _____ them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

VI. "... to be a _____ priesthood ..."

A. Every true believer _____ a member of the holy priesthood. As Rev. 1:6 says, "... He (Christ) has _____ to be a kingdom, _____ to His God and Father; to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

VII. "... to offer up spiritual _____ acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

A. As it was the _____ of the Old Testament Priests to offer up sacrifices to God it is our duty as living stones, a spiritual house, and a holy priesthood to _____ up spiritual sacrifices that are _____ to God through Christ Jesus.

B. When Peter spoke of _____ sacrifices he was prepping us that we, in understanding the dignity and privilege of our salvation, might joyfully _____ our _____ as he presents it to us in the following verses. This letter outlines some of the spiritual sacrifices that we are to offer God.

1. It is for this that we are joined to the Living Stone and have become living stones - to be a holy priesthood that offers up spiritual sacrifices of _____. For those are the only sacrifices (the sacrifices of an obedient heart - of the heart that has come to Christ in _____) that are "_____ to God through Jesus Christ."

Closing: What kind of house does the Lord build? A _____ house!

For what purpose does He build that house?

That there might be a holy priesthood that offers up spiritual _____ that are acceptable to Him through faith in Christ Jesus.

And, church, we are that house! Let us live our lives offering up the spiritual sacrifices of _____ that are acceptable to God through faith in Christ.

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