

# God's Building 10: Becoming Living Stones

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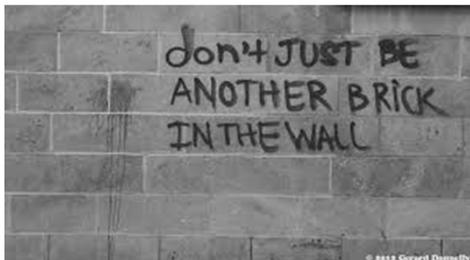
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## Introduction



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## 1 Peter 2.4-5

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup>you 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.

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### 1 Peter 2.4-5

1. Come to Him
2. Become like Him
3. Be built by Him
4. Sacrifice through Him

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### Come to Him

- 'As you come to him, the living Stone'
- He's a 'Living stone' (2.4) because He's been laid by God (2.6) and is 'rejected by men but chosen by God' (2.4).

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### Come to Him

- What does 'come to Him' (2.4) refer to?
- Read 1 Peter 1.22-2.12 and discuss:
  - 'obeying the truth' (1.22)
  - being 'born again... of the living word of God' (1.23), 'the gospel' (1.25)
  - having 'tasted that the Lord is good' (2.3; quoted from Ps 34.8!)
  - putting our 'trust in Him' (2.6)
  - 'believing' (2.7)
  - being called 'out of darkness into His wonderful light.' (2.9)

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## Become like Him

- We become 'living stones' just like Him
- 'you also, like living stones' (2.5): it's only by coming to the Living Stone that you can become a living stone!
  - He is 'rejected by men but chosen by God' (2.4) and so are we (2.9)
  - 'love... deeply' (1.22)
  - 'rid yourselves of all...' (2.1)
  - In order to be 'built into a spiritual house' (2.5) we must destroy the sins that destroy community (2.1).

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## Become like Him

- 'love deeply' (1.22) by 'ridding yourself of'
- Malice: a desire to hurt someone with words or deeds.
  - Guile: a desire to gain some advantage by deceiving others.
  - Hypocrisy: a desire to be known for what you are not.
  - Envy: a desire for some privilege or benefit that belongs to another.
  - Slander: a desire for vengeance through false accusation.
- Destroy the desires that destroy community!

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## Become like Him

- '...grow up into salvation' (2.2; 1.5) – How?
- 'As newborn babies, crave pure spiritual ('true to real nature') milk.' (2.2)
  - The Word written (1.23) and gossiped (1.25) conceives and also sustains.
  - 'since you have tasted that the Lord is good' (2.3; quoted from Ps 34.8)
- Ps 34.8: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who hopes in Him.
- Taste is the only sense with ingestion...
  - Babies that 'have tasted' will 'crave'.
  - Deer that pants (Ps 42.1) vs camel...
  - Tozer (1982:6) quote...

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## Be Built by Him

'are being built into a spiritual house' (2.5)

- 'a spiritual house', not a physical building
- Where is this 'spiritual house' made of 'living stones'?

1 Peter 1.1: Peter, and apostle of Jesus Christ, God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia...

God's building is 'scattered' everywhere!

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## Conclusion

It is only if we come to Him and become like Him that we can be built by Him and sacrifice through Him.

Have you developed a thirst for God by tasting that He is good?

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