

Jesus is the cornerstone and we are the stones that make up the structure.

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— 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. 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 capstone," 8and, "A stone that causes men 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, a people belonging to God, 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. — **I Peter 2:4-10**

built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. — **Ephesians 2:20**

Why is Jesus the chief cornerstone?

So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. — **Isaiah 28:16**

Jesus was the chosen one, the anointed one, "The Messiah".

Jesus would be precious:

Meaning, valuable, dear, He would lay his life down for us.

Jesus would be the foundatio for all to follow.

There are two types of reactions toward this cornerstone:

1. Some will _____ Him.
2. Some will reject Him.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; — **Psalms 118:22**

and he will be a sanctuary; but for both houses of Israel he will be a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare. — **Isaiah 8:14**

The church is ...

A holy priesthood.

As ministries for the Lord we are to:

- 1) Reflect the holiness of God.
- 2) Offer our lives as a spiritual sacrifice.
- 3) Pray for others and lift them before God.
- 4) Represent God before man.

A chosen people.

God first chose us.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. — **Roman 5:8**

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

A royal priesthood.

A holy nation.

Our citizenship is in heaven.

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, - **Philippians 3:20**

A people belonging to God.

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. — **Acts 20:28**

WE ARE BUILT UPON _____ FOUNDATION, JESUS CHRIST.

WE SERVE AS PRIESTS IN _____ TEMPLE.

Pastor Barden Gerace Jr.

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As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. — **Ephesians 4:1-6**

A Study in I Peter

Christ our
firm
foundation