

The Stone that the Builders Cast Aside

The stone that the builders cast aside, the One deemed unworthy, undesirable, and unnecessary, has become the very cornerstone upon which everything eternal is now built. Rejected by the world, He was chosen by the Father. Despised by men, He became the glory of heaven and the foundation of the redeemed. This, indeed, is the Lord's doing, and it is *marvelous* in our eyes.

Jesus, the Man of Sorrows, carried the weight of humanity's pain in silence. He bore the scorn, the shame, the stripes, yet in every wound, there was healing. In every bruise, there was peace. He was pierced, not for His crimes, but for ours. Rejected by man, but received by God, Jesus became the place where justice met mercy, where wrath was absorbed by love.

He was crucified outside the city gates, where the unclean were cast. The religious system had no room for Him, and so He bore our reproach in a place reserved for the outcast. But in that place of rejection, He birthed a new city, not built by man's hands, but by God's design, a city not of this world, yet destined to come, filled with living stones, sons and daughters born of the Spirit.

Now, we too must go to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach, laying down the approval of men to be part of something far greater: a spiritual house, a holy priesthood. We are called to build not on shifting sands, but on the unshakable Rock, Christ Himself, the foundation of truth, the hope of glory.

He is the cornerstone. The one who believes on Him will never be put to shame. What the world rejected, heaven has enthroned.

And we, the once-wayward sheep, are now a chosen generation. A royal priesthood. A holy nation. A people of His own possession. We are no longer orphans in darkness, we have been summoned into His marvelous light to proclaim the praises of the One who redeemed us through rejection, purchased us through pain, and raised us through His resurrection.

Psalm 118:22-23 *"The stone, which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing it is marvelous in our eyes. This is a day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."*

Isaiah 53:3-6 *"He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has born our grief, and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him, stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted..."*

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement, for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, everyone, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

Hebrews 13:11-14 "For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the Holy Place by the high priest as an offering for sin are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the gate, that he might sanctify the people through His own blood. So then, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.. For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come."

1 Peter 2:4-9 "Coming to Him as to a living-stone, rejected indeed, by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is also contained in the scriptures, behold, I lay in Zion, a chief cornerstone elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will, by no means, be put to shame."
"Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, the stone, which the builders rejected, has become the chief cornerstone, and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense. They stumble, being disobedient to the Word, to which they also were appointed."
"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."