



John 17

20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.



BECOMING ONE: ONE 'STONE'

1 Peter 2:4-10



1 Peter 2:

4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For this is contained in Scripture:

"BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." 7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"



1 Peter 2:

8 and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. 9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.



THE LIVING STONE

- Peter's calling, was there a problem???
 - He knew the "Living Stone"
 - COME – and keep on coming!!!
- Jesus rejected...
 - The world and its religions will always reject Jesus!
 - Choice and Precious

LIVING STONES

- Peter calls us “living stones”
 - Able to adapt, improve the ‘fit’
 - God is calling each to be what we are...
- Spiritual house
 - Holy priesthood
 - Spiritual sacrifices, not animal/burnt

LAI D STONE

- **Precious Cornerstone**
 - Laid in Zion, the true Israel
 - Laid by God Himself
 - God knows “all the right angles”!
 - God knows what is level and firm
 - He who “believes” – not disappointed
 - Precious value

REJECTED STONE

- **The other choice... disbelieve!?**
 - **Priests had heard this**
 - **They rejected Jesus, He didn't "fit"**
 - **Stumbling and offense**
 - **Disobedience!**
 - **Appointed doom?**

STANDING ON THE STONE

- What is God up to?
 - A chosen race...
 - Royal priesthood
 - Holy nation
 - God's own people/possession
- TO PROCLAIM!!! *exaggello* 1x only!
 - His actions, goodness, excellence, virtues
 - Out of darkness, in to HIS WONDERFUL LIGHT!!!

PROCLAIMING STONES

- The Stones of Jerusalem cry out
- The stone on the tomb cries out
- The living stones of His People

We were not a people, now we are!

We were without mercy, now we have it!

