

1 Peter 2:4-10

Please answer the following questions. We will discuss them at Bible Study.

The analogy (4-6)

1. How do verses 4-5 describe the following relationships?
 - (a) Jesus and God the Father
 - (b) Jesus and unbelievers
 - (c) Jesus and believers

2. Chief cornerstone, read also verse 6: In the ancient Middle-Eastern world, the cornerstone was the first stone laid in the building process, determining the position and alignment of the rest of the structure.
 - (a) What is the spiritual house, for which Jesus is the chief cornerstone? See also Ephesians 2:19-22.
 - (b) What is the purpose of this house? What is the earthly house that is analogous to this spiritual house?
 - (c) In what ways does Jesus serve as chief cornerstone to this spiritual house? Read Colossians 1:15-18, Ephesians 4:15-16, and Revelation 1:12-20 as well.

3. How does Jesus' relationship with unbelievers determine our relationship with the world? How does this affect how we live in the world?

The testimony of Scripture (6-8)

4. What does it mean, as quoted in verse 6, that believers will not "be put to shame"? What effect does meditating on this truth have on the believer, as described in verse 7?
5. Evaluate the value you place on knowing and obeying Jesus Christ, compared to that placed on other objects and pursuits in your life. How must you change, in order to rightly live in light of what God has done for you in Jesus Christ?
6. Verse 8 describes Jesus as a source of stumbling and offense to unbelievers.
 - (a) How was Jesus a cause of stumbling and offense for both the Jews and the Greeks of that time? See also 1 Corinthians 1:23.
 - (b) In what ways is Jesus an offense and stumbling block to our culture?

The appointments (8-10)

7. What is the ultimate reason why unbelievers stumble on the rock that is Jesus Christ? See also Romans 9:14-24.

8. In contrast, according to verses 9 and 10, to what end have believers been called to?
9. Define the following terms found in verse 9. In what way has God made us to be these things? Give a supporting verse for each.
 - (a) a chosen generation
 - (b) a royal priesthood
 - (c) a holy nation
 - (d) His own special people
10. How must our day-to-day living be determined by who God has made us in Jesus Christ, as seen in the previous question?
11. Relate this study (verses 4-10) back to the theme of this section of 1 Peter, which is holiness. Specifically, how do these verses fit in with the command given in 1 Peter 1:14-16?