AS YOU COME TO HIM, A LIVING STONE REJECTED BY MEN BUT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS, YOU YOURSELVES LIKE LIVING STONES ARE BEING BUILT UP AS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, TO BE A HOLY PRIESTHOOD, TO OFFER SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. FOR IT STANDS IN SCRIPTURE: "BEHOLD, I AM LAYING IN ZION A STONE, A CORNERSTONE

1 PETER 2:4-10

CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." SO THE HONOR IS FOR YOU WHO BELIEVE, BUT FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE, "THE STONE THAT THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE," AND "A STONE OF STUMBLING, AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE." THEY STUMBLE BECAUSE THEY DISOBEY THE WORD, AS THEY

1 PETER 2:4-10

WERE DESTINED TO DO. BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT. ONCE YOU WERE NOT A PEOPLE, BUT NOW YOU ARE GOD'S PEOPLE; ONCE YOU HAD NOT RECEIVED MERCY, BUT NOW YOU HAVE RECEIVED MERCY.

1 PETER 2:4-10



1 PETER 2 (PAGE 588 IN OUR BIBLES)



THE CHURCH:

A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO REPRESENT GOD TO THE WORLD



1 PETER 2 (PAGE 588 IN OUR BIBLES)



THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH



THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

4 AS YOU COME TO HIM, A LIVING STONE REJECTED BY MEN BUT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS, 5 YOU YOURSELVES LIKE LIVING STONES ARE BEING BUILT UP AS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, TO BE A HOLY PRIESTHOOD, TO OFFER SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

THE IMAGERY OF THE LIVING STONES BEING BUILT INTO A SINGLE UNIT IMPLIES THAT THE SIGNIFICANCE AND PURPOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHRISTIAN CANNOT BE REALIZED APART FROM COMMUNITY WITH OTHER BELIEVERS. COMING TO CHRIST MEANS COMING INTO RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS...

KAREN JOBES





1 PETER 2 (PAGE 588 IN OUR BIBLES)



THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH



THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

6 FOR IT STANDS IN SCRIPTURE: "BEHOLD, I AM LAYING IN ZION A STONE, A CORNERSTONE CHOSEN AND PRECIOUS, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." 7 SO THE HONOR IS FOR YOU WHO BELIEVE, BUT FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE, "THE STONE THAT THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE

THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

CORNERSTONE," 8 AND "A STONE OF STUMBLING, AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE." THEY STUMBLE BECAUSE THEY DISOBEY THE WORD, AS THEY WERE DESTINED TO DO.





THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH



THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

9 BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT.



THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

10 ONCE YOU WERE NOT A PEOPLE, BUT NOW YOU ARE GOD'S PEOPLE; ONCE YOU HAD NOT RECEIVED MERCY, BUT NOW YOU HAVE RECEIVED MERCY.



THE CHURCH IS GOD'S PLAN A, AND THERE IS NO PLAN B.



IF THE CHURCH IS GOD'S PRIORITY, SHOULDN'T IT ALSO BE OURS?



