

A Holy Nation People

1 Peter 2:4-25
Key Verse: 2:9

by Sarah Barry

“But 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.”

1. Read verses 4-5. Who is the "living stone"? What is the paradox about him? How does God work in us as we come to him? What does it mean to be a holy priesthood? What are the sacrifices acceptable to God? (Ro 12:1,2; Ps 51:17; Heb 13:15; Ro 15:16)
2. Read verses 6-8. What does Scripture say about this living stone? Why is Jesus called the "stone the builders rejected"? (Mk 12) To whom is he precious? (4,6,7) When does he become a stone that causes men to stumble? What does it mean that he is the cornerstone? Capstone?
3. Read verse 9. What is God's purpose in choosing his people? What does it mean to be a royal priesthood? (Compare Heb 7) A holy nation? What is the life purpose of all believers?
4. Read verse 10. What is the special grace and mercy which we have received? What difference does it make to have an identity as God's people? Read verses 11-12. How can we live lives that glorify God?
5. Read verses 13-17. What was Christ's attitude toward human authority? What should be the Christian's attitude be? Why? How can one submit to masters and at the same time live as a free man?
6. Read verses 18-21. What does Peter teach about two kinds of suffering? Read verses 22-25. What was Jesus' example and how can we follow him? What has he done for us?
7. How do we become a holy nation people and how can we live as holy nation people? (11-25)