

## You are a Royal Priesthood

1 Peter 2:4-12

Key Verse: 2:9

1. As a newly born Christian, what should our struggle be? (Read verses 1-3.) Notice both the negative and positive admonitions here. Why is this necessary for healthy personal growth and Christian fellowship?
2. Read verse 2 again. What is the strongest desire of a newborn baby? What is the “pure spiritual milk”? (see 1:23-25) Why should we crave it? (2b,3; 2Ti3:15-17; Ps119:131,148)
3. What did Peter encourage the scattered and rejected Christians to do? (4a) How did he describe Jesus? (4b) In light of their situation (1:1,6; 2:11a), why did he use the term “the living Stone”?
4. How should Christians identify with Jesus? (4) What great thing happens to those who do? (5a) In what respect are they precious and important persons in God’s work? (5b) What more does the Scripture say about Jesus the living Stone? (6-8) What is God’s promise to those who trust in him? (6b) To those who reject him? (7b-8)
5. Read verses 9,10. How does trusting in Jesus change our identity? How did this fulfill God’s original plan for his people? (Ex19:5,6) Read verse 9a again and think about the meaning of 1) chosen people; 2) royal priesthood; 3) holy nation; 4) people belonging to God. Why is it so important to have this identity in a godless world?
6. Read verse 9b. What was God’s main purpose in making us a royal priesthood? (Mk5:19,20; 1Ti1:15,16) Think about the importance of my personal testimony.
7. As God’s royal priests in the world, what should our fight be? (11) Why should we live such good lives? (12)