

Like Living Stones

- A. If ever there was a worthy attempt to build “a house for the name of the LORD” (1 Kings 5:5), surely the temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem was it. But as incredibly grand as that temple was:
 - 1. Listen to what the LORD asked in *Isaiah 66:1*.
 - 2. Listen to what Paul proclaimed in *Acts 17:16, 22-31*.
- B. Though he does not live in temples made by man, our Creator wants us to seek him (*Isa 66:2*).
 - 1. As our Creator, he commands all of us to stop dishonoring him and start living *for* him.
 - 2. The hinge of his plan to save mankind is the raising of his Son from the dead.
- C. Let’s sit at the feet of Peter as he clearly guides us through the gospel and the call to the blessing.

I. The _____

- A. _____ and _____ can be multiplied to us (*1 Pet 1:1-2*):
 - 1. According to the foreknowledge of God the Father
 - 2. In the sanctification of the Spirit
 - 3. For sprinkling with the blood of and obedience to Jesus Christ
- B. God can cause us to be _____ (*1 Pet 1:3-12*):
 - 1. To a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead
 - 2. To an imperishable, undefiled, unfading inheritance that is guarded in heaven
 - 3. In the meantime, we are being guarded by God’s power through faith
- C. This is the essence of the “good news” that creates inexpressible _____ and fullness of glory

II. The _____

- A. God is _____; “*Be holy in all your conduct*” (*1 Pet 1:13-25*). This requires:
 - 1. Sober minds that are prepared for action
 - 2. Hope that is fully set on the grace that will be ultimately realized at Jesus’ return
 - 3. Fearful remembrance of the cost of my ransom that drives me to obedient submission
 - 4. A pure heart that is bearing the fruit of sincere love
- B. God is _____; “*Taste and see*” that he is better, more satisfying than anything (*1 Pet 2:1-3*)
 - 1. Put away all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander
 - 2. Develop the longing of an infant for pure spiritual nourishment, that by it you may grow up

III. The _____

- A. Like living stones, we are being built up as a spiritual _____, to be (*1 Pet 2:4-10*):
 - 1. A royal holy priesthood that offers acceptable spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus
 - 2. A chosen race, shaped into a holy nation that belongs to and proclaims the worth of God
- B. The aim of the proclamation? That, having been _____, we would:
 - 1. Be a blessing to unbelievers who might also be persuaded (*1 Pet 2:11-12, 24-25; 3:18-22*)
 - 2. Glorify God (*1 Pet 2:16; 4:7-11*)