

1 Peter Chapter 2

1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

- Wherefore---Because of or in reference to being born again
- Malice = ill will; desire to injure
- Guile = craft; deceit
- Hypocrisies = the acting of a stage player
- Envies = Jealousy
- Evil speaking = backbiting; defamation

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

- Born again: 1 Pet. 1:23
- Babies instinctively desire the breast. Christians desire growth.

4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

- Stone is a building material. Living Stones would be a material upon which to build lives.
- Jesus is not the material of choice for many people even today.

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

- As the temple was used to offer sacrifices under the law, the Christian life is a constant sacrifice seen of others. 1 Cor. 3:16 2 Cor. 3:2

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

- Isaiah 28:16

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

- Precious = Valuable; Honorable
- Building begins from a corner and is squared, plumbed, leveled.

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

- Folks stumble at the word because they cannot build what they want using the word of God as the material and standard.

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

- Chosen (picked out), Royal (kingly, regal), Holy (A Characteristic of God), Peculiar (purchased possession)

10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

- Acts 17:26

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

- Abstain = hold ones self off from

12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

- Conversation = manner of life
- Day of visitation = Refers to investigation of each person and justification in rewards given.

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

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15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

- We must be good citizens. Remember: "All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth".

18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

- Jesus gave us an example of one who believed God was in control of his life and would ultimately "make all things work together for good" if one sought to do his will in all things.

21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

- The desired outcome of Jesus' manner of life and ultimate sacrifice is stated: we are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.
 - o The tasks of a Near Eastern shepherd were: - to watch for enemies trying to attack the sheep - to defend the sheep from attackers - to heal the wounded and sick sheep - to find and save lost or trapped sheep - to love them, sharing their lives and so earning their trust.
 - o Bishop = an overseer, a man charged with the duty of seeing that things to be done by others are done rightly.