

Series: Things must change

Title: New growth, new foundation.

1 Peter 2:1-4 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.

² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,

³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—

Although this new life is imperishable, it requires growth.

Our sinful self-centeredness will continue to rule if we let it, unless the seed of spiritual life is nourished.

How do we ensure maturity?

If we want to be physically healthy, we must feed our bodies what is nutritious, while avoiding what is unwholesome.

The same principle is true in the spiritual realm.

Therefore, Peter says, rid yourselves of all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander.

Such actions belong to the former life of sin, but they lead to death.

So, if this is what Peter is telling the early church.

They needed to build a foundation they could sustain this new growth, these new changes.

When someone wants to build a house.

They find a place to build it, then they have to test the foundation to see if it is adequate for the house to sit on.

In certain places there is clay and clay is good and solid when it is dry BUT when it gets wet it shifts.

As a result, buildings move, they start to crack.

And because it shifts the foundation, everything is off.

Pipes break, doors do not shut right the walls crack.

What the solution?

Foundation experts place piers that connect the foundation so the way down through the clay to the bedrock.

Then, the clay can do what it does, but the building stands firm.

The quality of your foundation will be seen when storms come.

Things are breaking in your life, doors won't shut and they will not open for you and the walls of your life start to crack.

Things are not the same.

1. Foundation

Our foundation for everything in life should be grounded, fixed, attached, laid upon Jesus, the un-shifting rock.

1 Peter tells us what is physically seen when our foundation is off.

1 Peter 2:1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.

People who live like this, that these things mentioned here are their way of living, may not know that they have a shifting foundation.

Peter is telling the reader to GET RID of these things. (TYN) Get rid of it)

Malice behavior- deceit these things are a sign that the foundation of people who practice these things is not solid.

Let's not be pretenders of being good.

Be done with hypocrisy, jealousy, and backstabbing.

These people are unkind people.

Let me ask you this: Do you think we still have these kind of people in time and age?

Do we still have hypocrites?

How about jealous people?

Backstabbers? (Unkind People)

Peter knew that something needed to change but he also knew and understood that growth needed a new foundation.

And Peter knew about foundations because Jesus pointed him towards a firm footing when he renamed him.

His name had been Simon, but Jesus renamed him Peter.

John 1:42 And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

Cephas is common noun meaning “Stone” or “Rock”

Eventually, Jesus’ word were prophetic.

He foresaw the Peter would become like a rock – a stable, sturdy and reliable influence among Christ’s followers.

Jesus saw not only who Peter was, but who Peter was going to be.

When Jesus said “You will be called Cephas.”

This is how God saw Peter and this is how God sees us.

Revelation 2:17

Not just who you are right this moment, but what you have the potential of being.

Peter was not presented as a rock-solid through the gospels but he became a solid rock in the days of the early church.

We all know Peter’s personality: Talkative – impulsive – unstable – quick to act 0- not thinking before acting.

People saw this when they say Peter.

People saw Simon but Jesus saw Peter.

Jesus renamed him then recalled him.

From a fishermen to a fisher of men.

Jesus gave Peter a new foundation.

Not the same foundation.

He gave him a new way of thinking of himself.

1 Peter 2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—

The Jesus started to build on it.

There is something very interesting.

When your foundation changes—your destiny changes.

It is not the same.

2. Destination

If we have a different destination, because of a new foundation, that should make us change from the old us to the new us.

1 Peter 3:8-9 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Believers are different not because of our current location, but because of our destination.

Our marriages are not the same.
Our calling is not the same.
Our morals are not the same.
Our response to suffering is not the same.
Our words are not the same.
Our families are not the same.

Our destination is not the same as those who do not know who Jesus is.

Peter is reminding us with clarity and emphasis a theme found throughout God's story that would set the groundwork for this letter.

Peter wanted the early Christians to know that this role is not our home.

We are strangers passing through.

This world may be our current location, BUT we have a different destination.

Many who travel around the world, wear different clothes to show where they are from.

They want people in France to know they are from Texas (cap, t-shirt)

They point to where they are from.

Does the world know where you are from?
Do you wear it in your life?
The way you talk, the way you treat people, the way you live.

It starts with our foundation, which changes our destination.