



1 Peter 2:5

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

1 Peter 2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people (God's very own possession); that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;



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Summary of 1 Peter 2:5-9

Jesus Christ...

- Chief Cornerstone of the Temple
- The High Priest (Hebrews 3:1)

Christians...

- Living Stones
- Materials Which Together Become the Temple
- New Testament Priests
- Together, A Royal Priesthood of Believers



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What is the Chief Cornerstone?

A building typically has four corners, and buildings back then were built with stones. The chief cornerstone was the first stone laid down on the ground at one corner of the building, which was then built by adding stones next to and on top of the chief cornerstone.

How Important is the Chief Cornerstone?

If the chief cornerstone was laid even slightly angled, the whole building ended up at least slightly rotated on its own axis. If the chief cornerstone was laid even slightly slanted, the whole building ended up tilted and risked collapse.

Who is the Chief Cornerstone?

Jesus, who is the chief cornerstone of our faith, "for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:11).

Is This Analogy Appropriate?

If what you believe about Jesus is set correctly, the rest of the building blocks of your faith will work themselves out and your faith will endure. If what you believe about Jesus is incorrect, nothing you add to it will correct the error and your 'faith' will risk collapse.

1. Ordained

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Exodus 28:1

And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office...

John 15:16

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain...

Ordained (diatassó): to arrange thoroughly, to charge, to appoint



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2. Cleansed

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Leviticus 8:14-15

14 And he brought the bullock for the sin offering: and Aaron and his sons laid their hands upon the head of the bullock for the sin offering. 15 And he slew it; and Moses took the blood, and put it upon the horns of the altar round about with his finger, and purified the altar, and poured the blood at the bottom of the altar, and sanctified it, to make reconciliation upon it.

Titus 2:14

Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.



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3.1 Clothed

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Exodus 28:40-43

40 And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty. 41 And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office. 42 And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach: 43 And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him.



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3.2 Clothed

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Psalm 132:9

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness...

Jude 1:21-23, ESV

21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. 22 And have mercy on those who doubt; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Old Testament priests were clothed for service in modesty and righteousness, with dignity and distinction, with purpose and precision, they were never to approach their sacred duties with casualness or calousness.



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3.3 Clothed

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Revelation 3:1-5

1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.



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3.4 Clothed

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Revelation 3:17-18, The Laodicean Church

17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

Revelation 16:15

Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.



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4. Anointed

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Leviticus 8:12, 30

12 And he (Moses) poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him. 30 And Moses took of the anointing oil, and of the blood which was upon the altar, and sprinkled it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon his sons' garments with him; and sanctified Aaron, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

1 John 2:27, Amplified Version

But as for you, the anointing (the sacred appointment, the unction) which you received from Him abides in you; so then you have no need that anyone should instruct you. But just as His anointing teaches you concerning everything and is true and is no falsehood, so you must abide in Him just as His anointing has taught you.



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5. Must Be Born Into Service

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Numbers 3:10

And thou (Moses) shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office:
and the stranger (outsider) that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him (Nicodemus), Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be
born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Matthew 7:22-23

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy
name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I
profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.



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6. Held to Strict Standards of Obedience

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Leviticus 10:7

And ye shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: for the anointing oil of the Lord is upon you. And they did according to the word of Moses.

John 8:31

Jesus: If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

1 Samuel 15:22, New Living Translation

“What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.”



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7.1 Mandated to be Righteous Messengers Calling the Lost to Repentance

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Malachi 2:5-8, New Living Translation

5 “The purpose of my covenant with the Levites was to bring life and peace, and that is what I gave them. This required reverence from them, and they greatly revered me and stood in awe of my name. 6 They passed on to the people the truth of the instructions they received from me. They did not lie or cheat; they walked with me, living good and righteous lives, and they turned many from lives of sin. 7 “The words of a priest’s lips should preserve knowledge of God, and people should go to him for instruction, for the priest is the messenger of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. 8 But you priests have left God’s paths. Your instructions have caused many to stumble into sin. You have corrupted the covenant I made with the Levites,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.



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7.2 Mandated to be Righteous Messengers Calling the Lost to Repentance

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Galatians 5:16

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Galatians 6:1, New Living Translation

Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.

Matthew 28:19-20, New Living Translation

19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit (the name of Jesus). 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you...



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8. Access to God Through the Offering of Sacrifices.

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Hebrews 10:11

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Hebrews 13:15-17, English Standard Version

15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. 16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. 17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.



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8.1 Access to God Through the Offering of Sacrifices.

Shared Characteristics of Old Testament & New Testament Believer-Priests

Ephesians 5:2-7, English Standard Version

2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them;

Romans 15:16, English Standard Version

...be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.



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