

God With Us



A 5-WEEK SERMON SERIES
BY DR. HAMPTON DRUM

God With Us, As the Cornerstone

I Peter 2:4-8

“The purpose of Your birth was Your death. The purpose for Your death was Your resurrection. The purpose for Your resurrection was my salvation.” - Jennifer Kennedy Dean

What are some of the important characteristics of a cornerstone?

- ◆ The stone had to be without a flaw so that it yielded to the shaper’s chisel and not crack or break causing deformity and disqualification. *(Christ’s obedience and purity.)*
- ◆ The stone had to have immense strength and fortitude to bear up the total weight of the building. *(Christ’s fortitude to bear the cross.)*
- ◆ The stone had to survive the harsh shaping process and retain a form that was square and uniform. *(Christ as the way, the truth, and the life!)*
- ◆ The stone once set had to be dependable not to shift or change its form. The longevity of the establishment depended on the stability of the stone. *(Christ, the everlasting Lord.)*

I. There is the purpose of Christ as the cornerstone. (V.5)

A. He has a formative purpose as a cornerstone.

1 Peter 2:4 *To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, (V.5) Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house,*

“The chief stone on which all the others depend for proper alignment is Jesus Christ. By virtue of His resurrection from the dead, He is a living stone.” - Tony Evans

Jude 1:20 *... beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,*

B. He has a fundamental purpose as a cornerstone.

1 Peter 2:5 . . . 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; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

II. There is the placing of Christ as the cornerstone. (V.6)

A. He is chosen by God to be set as the chief corner stone.

1 Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone,

Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

B. He is chosen by God as a select cornerstone.

1 Peter 2:6 . . . elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

John 3:16 . . . For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,

III. There is the provision of Christ as the cornerstone. (V.7-8)

A. For the believer, He is their energy to achieve.

1 Peter 2:7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious:

Why Is the Cornerstone Precious to Believers

- ◆ It is precious because its integrity promises strength and durability to those who follow His pattern.
- ◆ It is precious because it has stood the test of time. The impact of historical enemies against Christ has not moved His established truth. He prevails as the dependable guide for life.
- ◆ It is precious because it is a reliable source from which future generations can take their guidance.
- ◆ It is precious because of its track record for success. Multitudes stand as a testimony of its ability to undergird a successful life.

B. For the betrayer, He is the evidence to accuse.

1 Peter 2:7 . . . but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, (V.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.

“People will see Jesus either as one who offends their personal freedom (a stone of stumbling), or as one who frees them of sin and is worthy of worship and obedience (the Chief cornerstone).”

- David Jeremiah