

WHY  
[H]O[R]H?



## **1 Peter 2:1-10**

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—

5 you also, **like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.** 6 For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,  
a chosen and precious cornerstone,  
and the one who trusts in him  
will never be put to shame.”

**7 Now to you who believe, this stone is**

**precious.** But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

8 and, “A stone that causes people to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which  
is also what they were destined for.

**9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**

**I. Love Jesus AND His Church**

## **I John 4:20**

If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

## **I John 5:1-2**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. **And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too.** 2 We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments.

## Acts 26:12-15

“In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests.

13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ 15 And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.



## **1 Timothy 1:15**

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

## **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

## **1 Corinthians 3:16**

Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you? (NLT)

“They who would do away with God’s sacred enterprise will themselves perish. Overall these two verses form the strongest warning in all the New Testament against those who would take the church lightly and destroy it by worldly wisdom and division.”

-Craig Blomberg

## John 21:15-17

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “**Feed my lambs.**” 16 He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “**Tend my sheep.**” 17 He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “**Feed my sheep.**”

## **2. Crave Spiritual Milk**

“Pure spiritual milk” refers to the very things that nourish the Christian community in its growth: knowledge of God, prayer, instruction in the gospel, faithful obedience, and hearing God’s preached word. The desire for spiritual nourishment is the desire of any church that wants to know the Lord and live in light of his will.”

-Scot McKnight

Crave The Word  
and not fickle emotions



Crave The Word  
and not fickle emotions

Crave holiness not comfartability

# **3. Value Your New Identity**

## **Exodus 19:3-6**

“...while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: 4 ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; 6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

## Hebrews 12:18-29

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest 19 and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. 20 For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,

**23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,** and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, **24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,** and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. **25 See that you do not refuse him who is speaking.** For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. **26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens...”**

27 This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore let us be **grateful** for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.

Be Grateful

Be Grateful

Be Joyful



Be Grateful

Be Joyful

Be Sober

## **Hebrews 12:14-17**

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. 15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

16 See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. 17 Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done...

## **Hebrews 10:25**

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

# **4. Embrace the Blessing of Your Calling**

# **Our Praise**

## **Hebrews 13:15-16**

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.

# **Our Treasures**

## **Proverbs 3:9-10**

Honor the Lord with your wealth

and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

10 then your barns will be filled with plenty,  
and your vats will be bursting with wine

## **Philippians 4:15-20**

As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this. 16 Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once. 17 I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness. 18 At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God...

19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus. 20 Now all glory to God our Father forever and ever! Amen.



# **Our Talents**

## **Ephesians 5:1-2**

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.

2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

## **I John 3:16-19**

We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? 18 Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. 19 Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.

## **Acts 20:28**

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

# **Our Lives**

## **Romans 12:1**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

## **Mark 8:34-37**

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul?

**5. Proclaim the One who  
brought you out of darkness...**

## **I Peter 2:9**

May proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

WHY  
HOLD  
YOUR  
HANDS?

