

1 Peter 2:4-8
Travelers on the Way: Built for Action

- I. Jesus is the chosen cornerstone of the faith of God's people. (v. 4)
- II. Each individual believer has a place in the plan and work of God. (v. 5)
- III. The significance and purpose of individual believers cannot be realized apart from community with other believers. (v. 5)
 - a. The primary attribute of the temple in first-century thought was its holiness. Just as God's presence sanctified the temple of Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit sanctifies the Christian community, setting it apart as God's own. The unity of the temple, the One Cornerstone, and a unity of purpose. There is one single temple into which all believers are built. The Christian church is not primarily a social organization but the new temple where transformed lives of believers are offered as a sacrifice to the glory of God. – Karen Jobe
- IV. Coming to or rejecting Jesus is what divides all of humanity. (v. 6-8)
 - a. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25: In this passage, Paul turns the concepts of power and wisdom on their heads. Humanity thinks that power is displayed by domination and control. God shows that true power is displayed in service and sacrifice. This is why Jesus is a skandalon (a stumbling block).
 - b. Acts 4:12: "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."