Living Stones

6-12-22

1 Peter 2:4 (ESV)

You come to him, A LIVING STONE rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,

Bill Wright – Jesus is the Living Stone! This Living Stone was rejected by the general population, but it was chosen and precious to God. Jesus, the LIVING STONE, is also the cornerstone from which God will build HIS foundation for HIS glorious Temple, the church.

This comes from a prophecy made 800 years earlier by Isaiah.

Isaiah 28:16 (NIV)
"So this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
"See, I lay a Stone in Zion, a tested Stone, a precious Cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic."

If the cornerstone is not solid, everything else about the building is weakened and will not last. Jesus is that Cornerstone which guarantees that everything built upon HIM is solid and will last. God declares this Cornerstone is the Living Stone. Picture this Stone with a heart within it beating and the Stone pulsating, ba boom, ba boom.

To finish the temple, more living stones need to be added to The Living Stone.

1 Peter 2:5 (ESV)

You yourselves LIKE LIVING STONES are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

We are the Living Stones to be added to "THE" Living Stone to finish building this temple. Again picture this Living Cornerstone now joined with millions of other living stones producing a living, breathing, powerful Temple of God; The Church!

Ephesians 2:22 (ESV)

In Jesus you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

This picture is painted clearly in the O/T. The O/T tabernacle built by Moses and the magnificent Temple built by Solomon demonstrate the purpose of the Temple.

Exodus 25:22 (ESV)

There I will meet with you, and I will speak with you

The Temple shows that God's ultimate purpose is to dwell among us!

Leviticus 26:11–12 (ESV)

¹¹I will make my dwelling among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. ¹²And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.

As the OT gives us the physical picture. Revelation gives us the fulfillment of the spiritual reality for all eternity.

Revelation 21:22 (ESV)

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.

There is no physical Temple in Heaven. The Temple, The Living Stone, The Cornerstone, The Living Stones are only a picture describing our eternal presence with God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

God sees the church as this living, breathing, powerful "living organism" in this dark world. We are now and will always be Living Stones join with The Living Stone alive and powerful.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (ESV)

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

We are God's Temple where the Holy Spirit lives. We are God's presence on earth. Therefore, walk in the Holy Spirit's power and stay out of the thorn bushes.

1 Corinthians 6:19 (ESV)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own?

Each believer serves God personally and ministers to others. We all as Living Stones have something to give. We are the Temple of God with the Holy Spirit living in us. We are assured that through Christ we have a "divine assignment" and the necessary power to serve God.

Once the cornerstone is in place, the design of the building and the strength of the structure will withstand all the lies of the Devil. God has set forth Jesus the Living Cornerstone and the foundation of the New Temple, the Church.

Brothers and sisters don't get too hung up on all the noise in the world. When the devil and his disciples press us simply declare as Living Stones, "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified."

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.