

The Hope That is in You – 1 Peter 2:1-10

Lesson 3

Spiritual Growth

In the previous passage the emphasis was on holiness and loving one another. Part of the spiritual birth we have from being “in Christ” is to have a “sincere love” and a “fervent love” (1:22) for the brethren. Sincere and fervent love is the opposite of a worldly love tainted by hypocrisy, envy, and slander. Now in 1 Peter 2, he extends that teaching of true love with an application of how to develop it.

Read 1 Peter 2:1-10

1. What do we need to rid ourselves of (v 1)? Considering the competition and conflict we are subject to, how should we speak to each other (Ephesians 4:15, 25-27)?
2. How does Peter extend the birth metaphor he began in 1 Peter 1:3, 23 (1 Peter 2:2)? What should they hunger for? What will the Word of God cause to happen in you?
3. 1 Peter 2:3 may be a reference to Psalm 34. What does Ps 34:8 say about developing our relationship with the Lord?
4. What metaphor does Peter use in 1 Peter 2:4-5 in describing our relationship with Christ in regard to growth?
5. What four different kinds of stones represent Christ’s relationship to the church as well as His relationship to unbelievers (v 4-8)?

6. Do other passages in Scripture both predict and confirm Christ as both the corner stone for believers, and the stone of stumbling for unbelievers (Psalm 118:22 quoted by Jesus in Matt 21:42, Isaiah 28:16, Luke 20:17-18)?

7. Does Peter use this metaphor to state that we are united to Christ in 1 Peter 2:5? What should we then “offer up” (Rom 12:1; 15:16, Eph 5:2, Hebrews 13:15-16)?

8. Why do unbelievers stumble, and what is their appointed fate (1 Peter 2:8)?

9. In 1 Peter 2:9-10, he quotes Old Testament passages originally given to Israel as the chosen people of God. How did Peter apply these passages to the church?

10. Who is the foundation and the corner stone for salvation and spiritual life to be built on (1 Corinthians 3:10-11, Eph 2:20-22)? People encounter Jesus with one of two opposing results. Is the “stone” the foundation for spiritual life in you, or is it a stone you fall over that leads to your fall?