



Unjust Suffering

1 Peter 2:4-12

“1 Peter: Alone or Not Alone, That is the Question”

1 Peter 2:4-12

October 23, 2024

*Among U.S. adults, about one in three said they feel lonely at least once a week. Worse, one in 10 Americans say they feel lonely every day, results show. Younger people are more likely to experience loneliness, which is defined as a lack of meaningful or close relationships or sense of belonging, according to the American Psychiatric Association’s latest Healthy Minds Monthly Poll. About 30% of respondents ages 18 to 34 said they feel lonely every day or several times a week. The poll “confirms loneliness is widespread, especially in young people,” said APA President Dr. Petros Levounis. **U.S. Today** Feb 2024 “Loneliness Is Plaguing Americans in 2024”*

Are you lonely?

Rejected by the World

1 Peter 2:4-8 *As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 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. 6 For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” 8 and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.*

- Cornerstone
- In or Out?
 - **Can you be a half cornerstone?**

Because you’re so awesome...

1 Peter 2:9-10 *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

Deut 7:6-8 *“For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. 7 It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

What made Israel so special for God to choose them?

What makes you so special for God to choose you?

All You Have

1 Peter 2:11-12 *Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.*

In order to keep their conduct honorable, Jesus had to be they need.

God wanted a flagship nation that was an example to the world, not of how they behave, but of how He behaves.

Jesus is all you need, but is Jesus all you have?

*Believers understand many doctrinal truths in the mind, but those seldom make the journey down into the heart except through disappointment, failure, and loss. As a man who seemed about to lose both his career and his family once said to me, “I always knew, in principle, that Jesus is all you need to get through. But you don’t really know Jesus is all you need until Jesus is all you have. **Timothy Keller** “Walking with God through Pain and Suffering” pg. 5*

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