

- Elect Exiles
- Bless God: Mercy, Power, Grace, salvation, Inheritance
- Hope set fully on Grace: Obedient Children: Minds for action; sober-minded
 - Purified Souls
 - Love one another



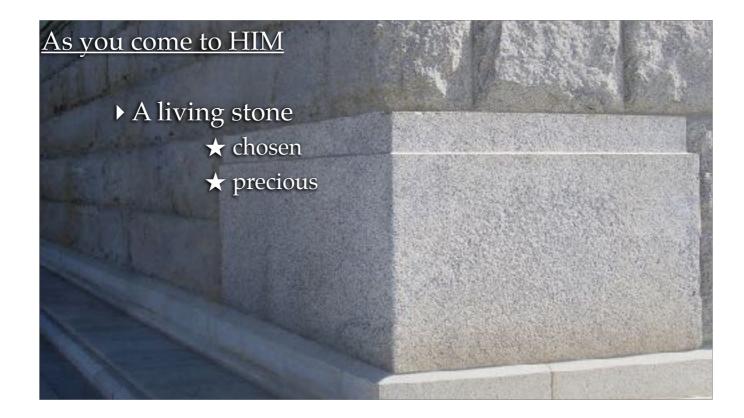
- \cdot Is it important for parents to help their children understand their value?
 - How do parents do this?
 - · Praise
 - Time
 - Sense of belonging
 - $\cdot\,$ Remind them of who they are



- · As exiles, it might be easy for these saints to question their worth in God's eyes.
 - · Lamentations 5:20 Why do you forget us forever, why do you forsake us for so many days?
- Matthew 10:29-31 (ESV) 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. 30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.



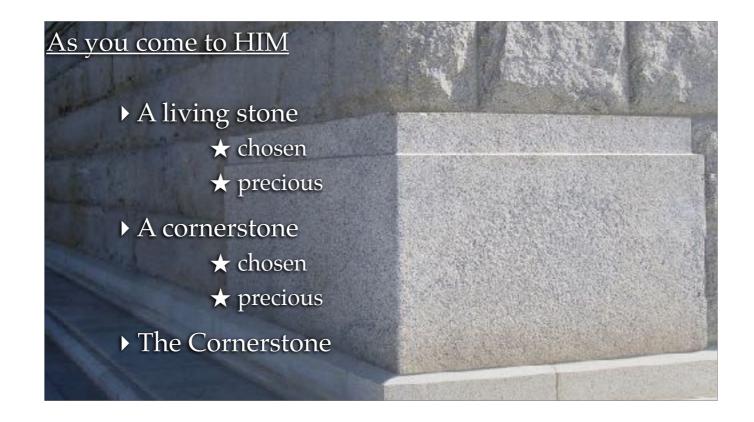
- good news preached to you
- grow up to salvation
- 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- 4 As you come to him
- · Peter gives us an understanding of who Jesus is: very specific three ways



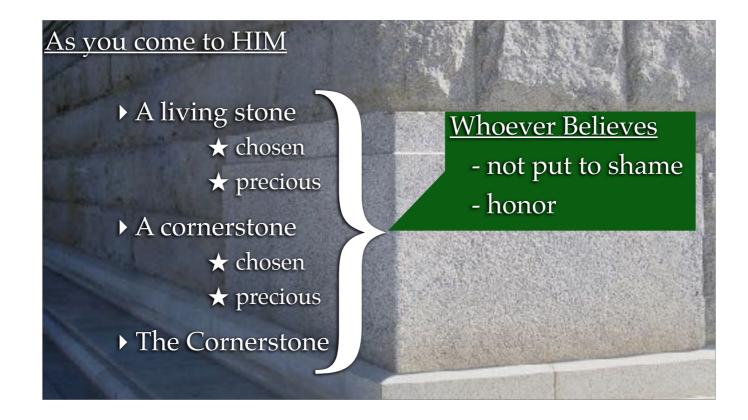
- 1 Peter 2:4 As you come to him, a living stone
 - living stone
 - stone reflects solidity, firmness
 - · living reminds us that our God is alive, not like the god's men have imagined
 - "living hope"
 - · but in the sight of God chosen and precious,
 - · chosen is the same word Peter called these saints "elect"
 - · Just as Jesus was chosen, so are we
 - precious indicates value, honor
 - · All that Jesus is, all that he chose to do for his father and for us
 - our Father honors Jesus' willingness, values his sacrifice.



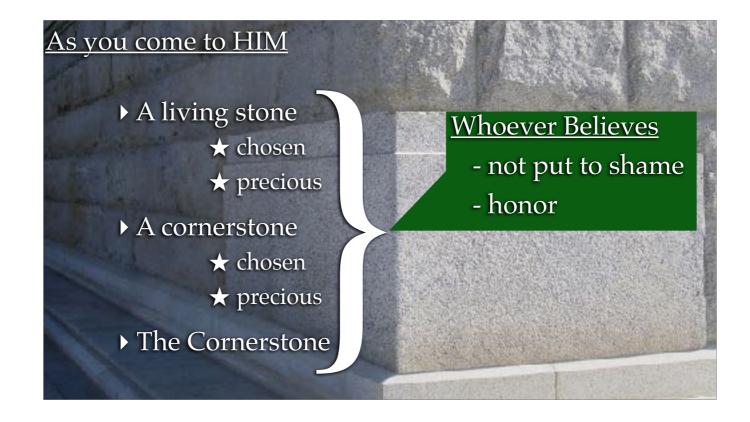
- 1 Peter 2:6 (ESV) 6 For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
- · Cornerstone: true, solid: sure foundation: square, stable
 - Isaiah 28:16: therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'
- Again: chosen and precious
 - · Let it sink in: Jesus is chosen and precious



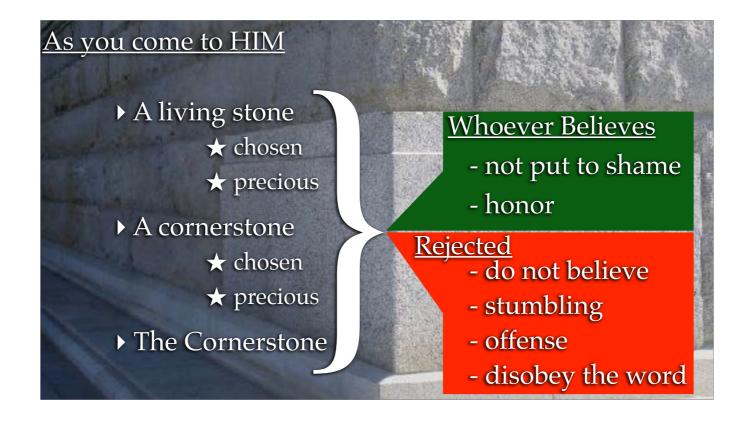
- 7: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," (Psalm 118:22)
 - The cornerstone (different word than prior use): the head of the corner.
- This is the one we are choosing to come to
 - · Jesus provides for us a spiritual foundation that cannot be shaken
 - Our lives may be a struggle, we may be far from home
 - There may be trials
 - But we have someone who is true and sure,
 - we can trust him and depend on him.



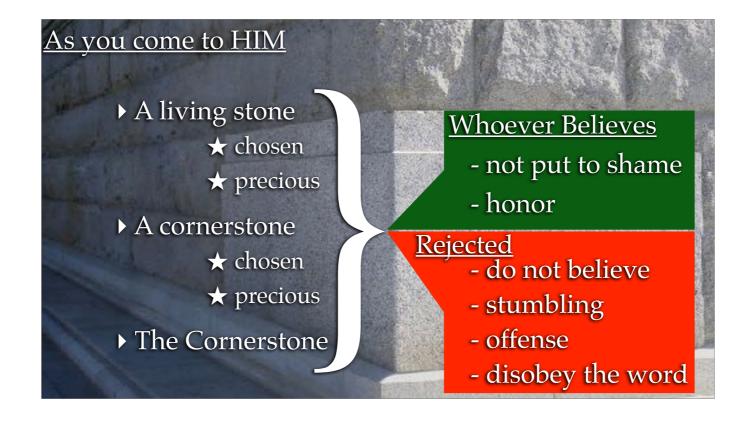
- 6 For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
- 7 So the honor is for you who believe
 - NET: So you who believe see his value,
- When we understand who Jesus is and see his value (like the father does!)
 - Put our trust and hope in him.
- Do you see the value of Jesus?



- When we put our trust in him for the salvation of our souls
 - 1 Peter 1:22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,
- \cdot We are assured and can be confident in this one who is the foundation of our salvation and our hope.



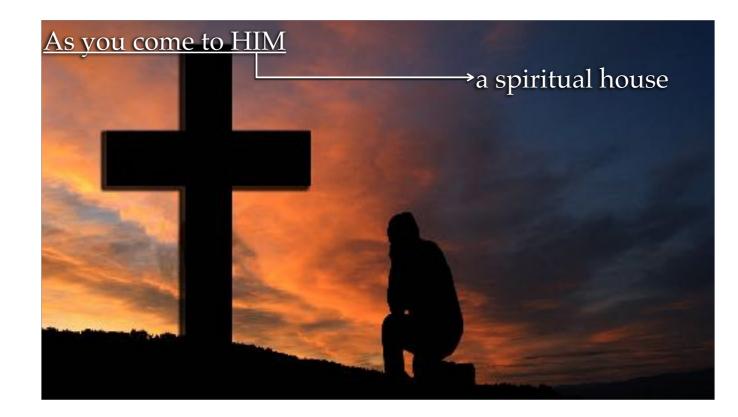
- But not everyone accepts Jesus:
 - · They don't perceive his value, nor do they see him as being a fit cornerstone
 - · They anticipated something else, he didn't meet their expectations



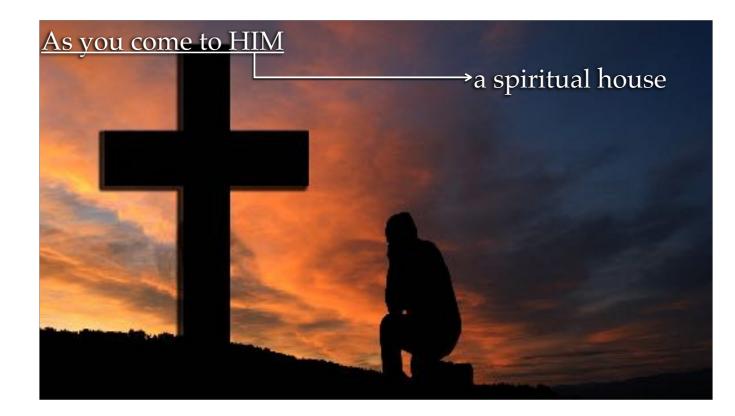
- Rejected do not believe
 - · 4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,
 - 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected
- 8 and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."
 - They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.



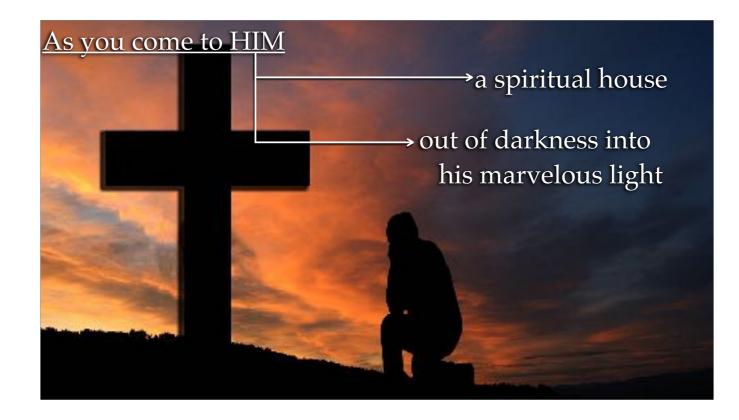
- · As you come to him: believing in him, valuing him, trusting in him
- What does Jesus do for us?



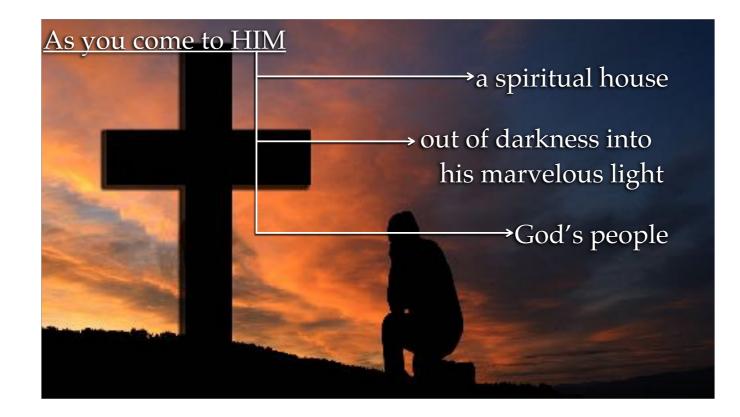
- 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house
 - Ephesians 2:19-22 (ESV) 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.



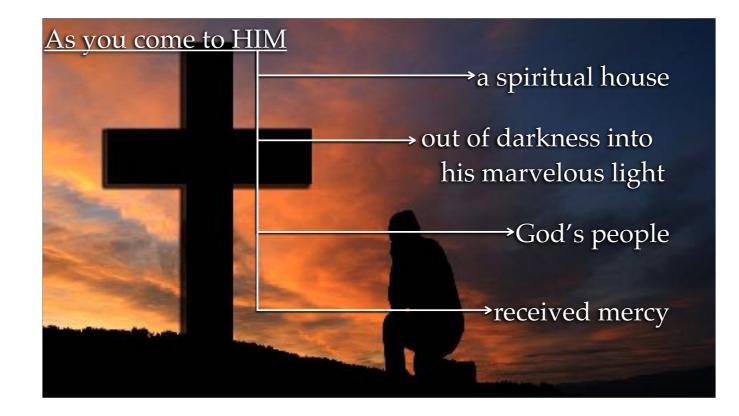
1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (ESV) 16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy
him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.



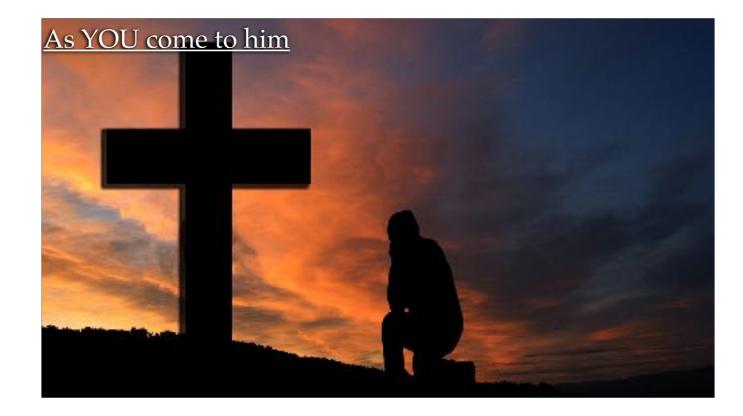
- 9: him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light
 - $\cdot\,$ the darkness of sin, and idolatry, ignorance and being deceived
 - marvelous light: salvation, grace, hope.



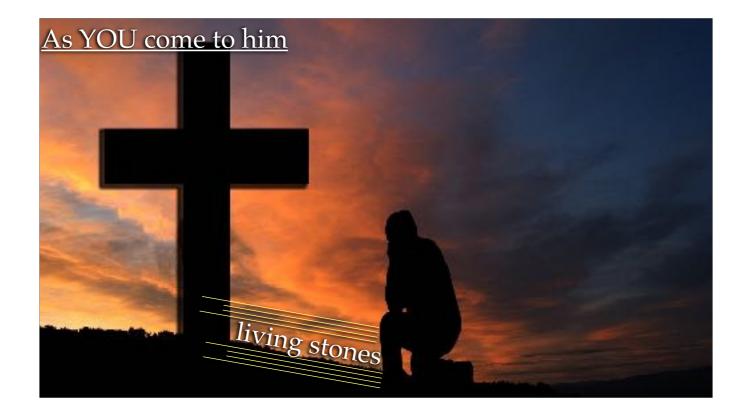
- 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people
 - $\cdot\,$ This is a strong allusion to what God did for the people of Israel
 - · Abraham lived in a different place among a people: God called him out
 - · Israel were slaves in Egypt, called out to be God's people



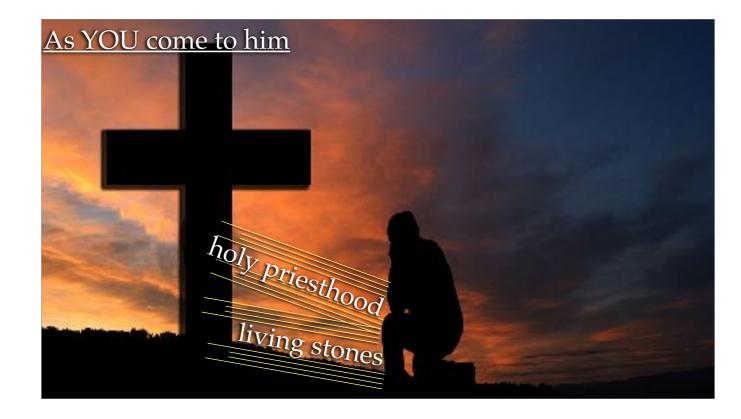
- 10 once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
 - · This is key: We have received God's mercy and therefore have salvation and hope
- · Why would we choose to come to Jesus?
 - He has plans for you for your good: light and mercy
 - · He has plans for your relationship with him: people and house, family
- · Do you see the value of Jesus: chosen and precious?



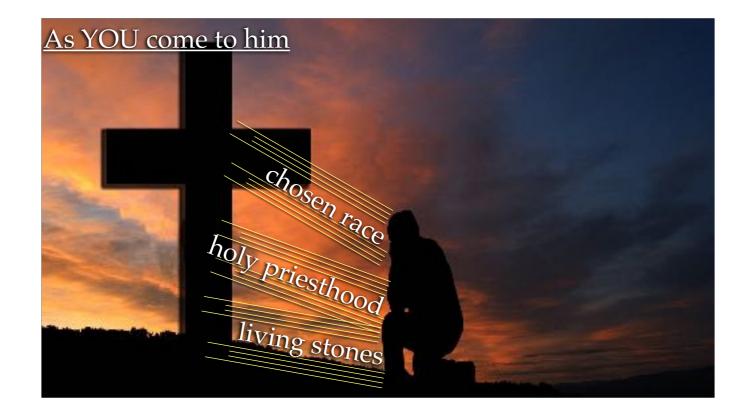
- $\cdot\,$ Understanding who Jesus is and what he does for us
 - Believing, honoring, valuing
- What does it teach us about who we are?



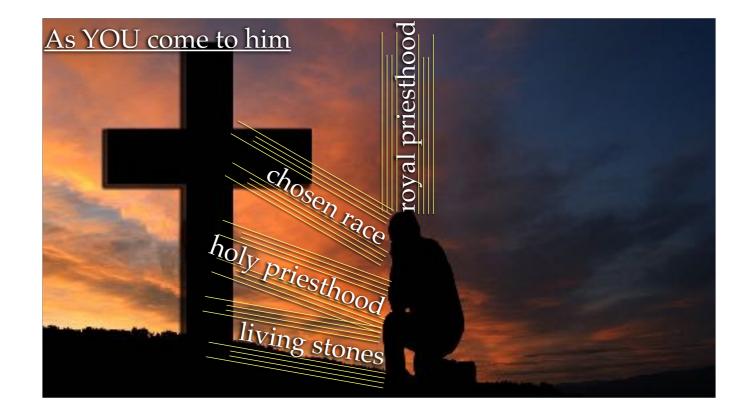
- · 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house
 - Just like Jesus is a living stone, so are we
 - Jesus is a living stone that is chosen and precious! So are we!



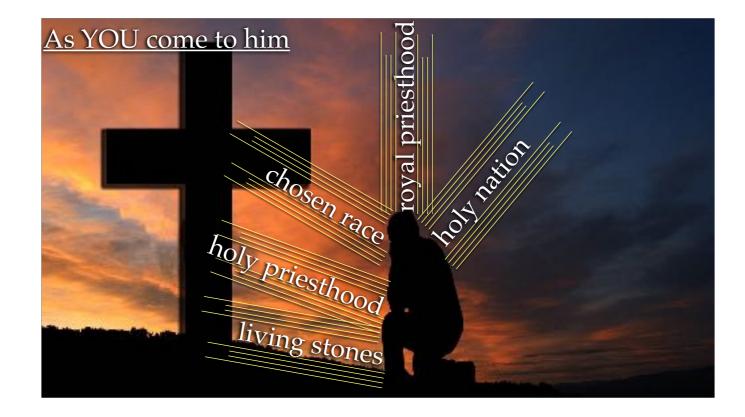
- Holy priesthood
- 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- dedicated to serving God ... sacrifices



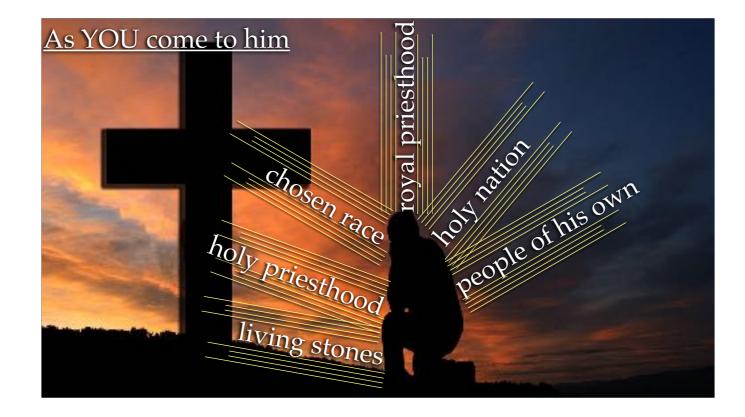
- Chosen Race
 - 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
- Just like Jesus was chosen, so are we
- · But we are also his family, of his household



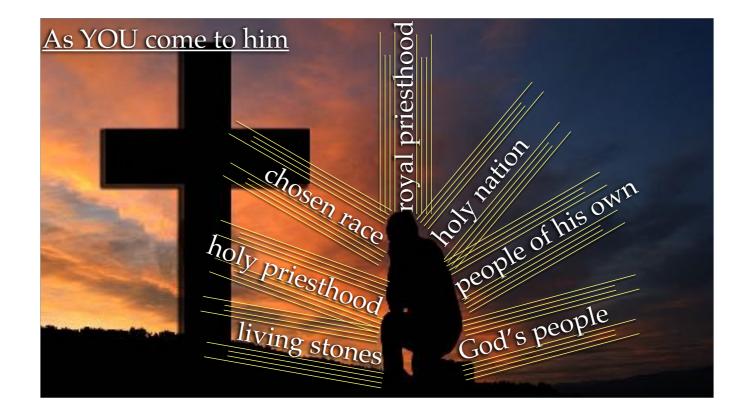
- royal priesthood
 - 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
- Although Peter hasn't made this connection
 - Jesus is king
 - And priest after the order of Melchizedek.
- · And so being a royal priesthood likens us to Jesus
 - · Reminds us of our value in God's eyes



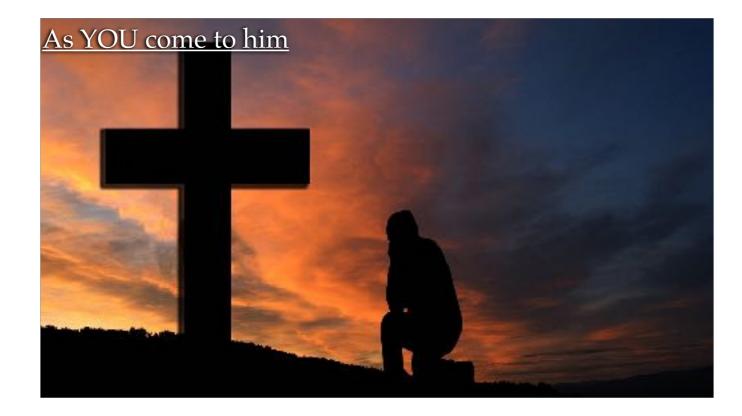
- holy nation
 - 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
- Reminds us of Israel
 - But we have better covenant, better promises, better savior



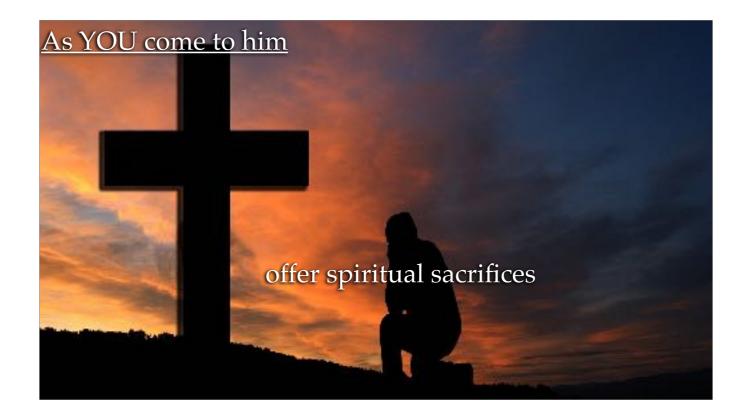
- people of his own
 - 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
- Again like Israel ... but better
- · This would be exclusive, like lover's do
- Do you recognize your value in God's eyes.



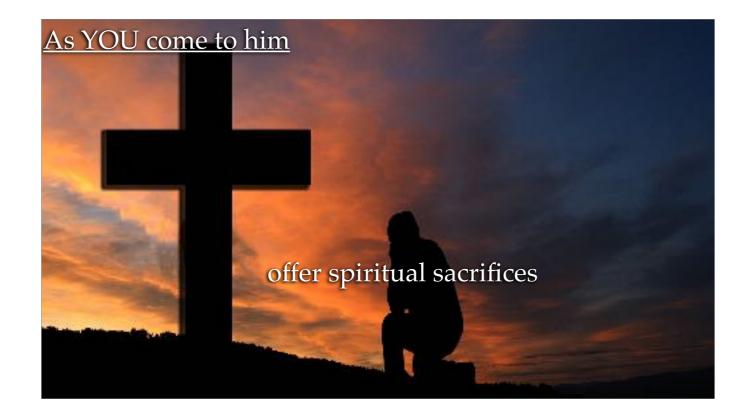
- God's people
- 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people
- Putting all of these together ... who are you?
 - · Just as we can see the value of Jesus,
 - We must learn to see that God sees our value
 - Chosen and precious
 - priests who serve him
 - people in an abiding relationship with him
 - Do you see your value?



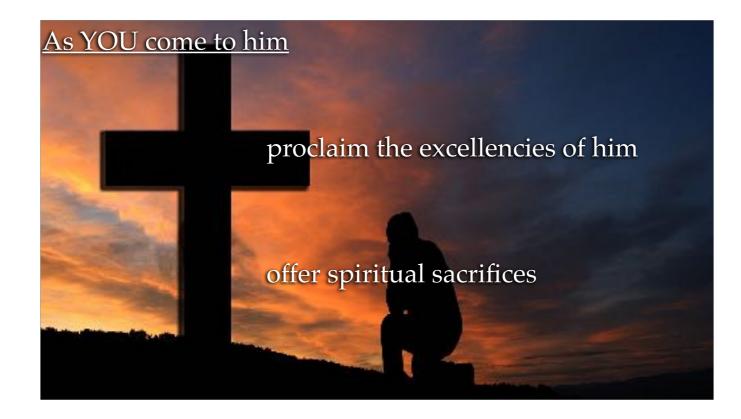
- What are we to do, seeing that we are so special in God's eyes?
- Peter seems to focus on two things



- Offer spiritual sacrifices
- 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.
 - Your body is not your own
 - · Use your body to glorify God, not please yourself (Jesus did not please himself)
 - · Tend to emphasize negative: don't do list
 - Positive aspects of this: serving others, loving, doing



- 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.
 - Praising God he's given us so many reasons that he is worthy of all honor, glory, praise
 - Do Good work for the benefit of others
 - \cdot Share find reasons to be generous for those who are in need
 - · (Good samaritan ... merciful, not judging)



- 9: proclaim the excellencies of him
 - \cdot who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light
- · Context is about our salvation -
 - complete proclamation
 - · celebrate
- · Are you so amazed at what Jesus has done for you that you need to share this good news?
 - Acts 4:19-20 But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."



- For those who are in Christ:
 - Understand how precious Jesus is
 - · And how precious you are as his chosen one
 - · What are your sacrifices this week?
 - · Will you celebrate Jesus this week with someone?
 - (Plan these things today)
- If you are not in Christ:
 - Will you come to Jesus or will you reject him?
 - Will you believe in him or disobey?
 - Will you value him or stumble on him?
 - Find in Him: mercy, relationships, salvation.

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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