

1 PETER  
**EXILED**  
STANDING FIRM IN GOD'S GRACE



## Accepted Rejects

1 Peter 2.4-10

### Main Idea

We will be rejected by the world, but we have been accepted by God as His chosen, precious, people.

### Overview

#### **I. Christ was rejected, so will you**

- The elected exiles are being rejected: 1 Peter 2.4
- Christ was rejected: 1 Peter 2.7
- Coming to Christ, the Living stone there is found rejection by men due to its hatred of swearing allegiance to Christ, not self (1 Peter 2.4)

#### **II. Christ is a Stumbling Block...a Rock of Offense**

- The Gospel is offensive to those that do not believe: 1 Peter 2.8
- Unbelievers stumble because they disobey as they were destined to do: 1 Peter 2.8
- For those that do not believe the Gospel we should understand that it is meant to be an offense, therefore we should not try and remove it and make it more palatable

#### **III. Christ made a People for Himself**

- Though we are rejected by man...those that come to Christ, the living stone in Faith they are:
  - Chosen
  - Precious
  - Living stones being built up into a spiritual house
  - Holy Priesthood
  - Will not be put to shame
  - Honor
  - Chosen race
  - Royal Priesthood
  - Holy Nation
  - People for His own possession
  - Called out of darkness and into his marvelous light
  - People by Gods mercy
- God has done all of this so that we might:
  - Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ: 1 Peter 2.5
  - Proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us: 1 Peter 2.9
- God called not merely a collection of individuals, but a People (Church):
  - All the "you's" in this passage are in the plural form
  - We are meant to be a people...not merely a collection of individuals that live in and proclaim the excellencies of Christ

## Questions

Discussion Starter: *Discuss either some personal stories or things you've heard about how Christians living faithfully are rejected.*

1. Read 1 Peter 2. In what way was Jesus “a living stone rejected by men” and “the stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone?” Why is it those who come to Christ are rejected by man?
2. Why do we want so badly to be accepted by “man” (world)? What’s the danger in trying hard to not be rejected by the world?
3. What is it about Christ that makes it him “a stone of stumbling, and rock of offense” to those that don’t believe?
4. How can we dangerously remove the offense of the Gospel? What is the motive in trying to do so?
5. Why is it loving, and not intolerant, to expose the offense to the unbelieving?
6. Share some ways you struggle with rejection and the offense of the Gospel as a Christian. Pray.
7. Read through the declarations of all the truths of those that are in Christ. Discuss the significance of each one in light of the rejection of man.
8. How does your identity in Christ fuel you to “proclaim the excellencies” of Christ?
9. How does the element of a “people” and not a crowd differentiate the Christian life? What role does the church play in that? How does this help us in times of “rejection”?

Accountability Question: *Confess some ways you are fearful of the rejection of man; then end by reflecting on the varied ways you are accepted in Christ and pray for boldness and contentment.*