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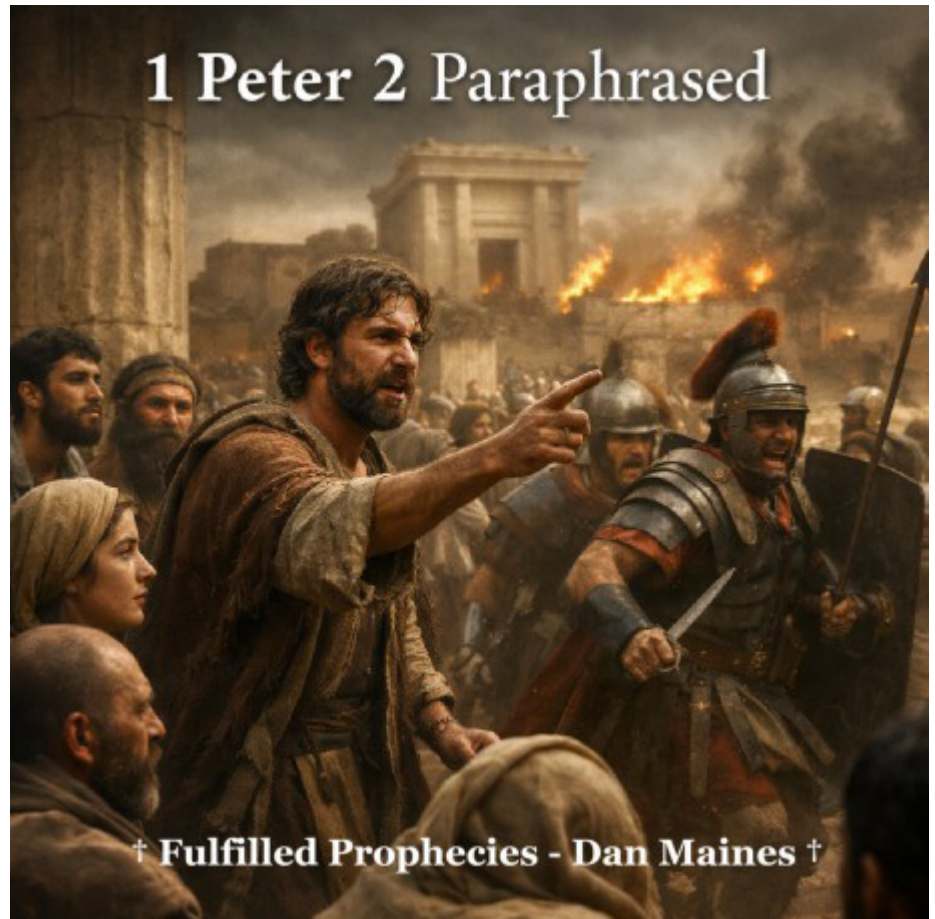
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1 Peter 2 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

1 Peter 2 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Peter continues calling believers to live as people who have been brought into God's new covenant family, leaving behind the corruption of the old life and growing into the life Christ established through His work.

† This chapter explains how believers became God's spiritual house, replacing the old temple system that was judged and

removed in the first century (Matthew 21:42-43).

† Peter connects believers directly to Christ as the cornerstone, showing that the covenant people of God are now built on Him, not on the temple in Jerusalem (Ephesians 2:19-22).

1 Peter 2:1

So get rid of all hatred, all deception, hypocrisy, jealousy, and every kind of harmful speech.

† Peter begins with the transformation expected of those who entered the new covenant community (Ephesians 4:31-32).

† These sins described the corruption of the old covenant leadership that persecuted Christ and the apostles (Matthew 23:13-33).

† The new covenant people were called to live differently because the kingdom had come to them (Matthew 21:43).

1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn children craving milk, long for the pure teaching that helps you grow into the salvation that has now come.

† The pure teaching refers to the gospel message preached by the apostles (Acts 2:42).

† Spiritual growth came through hearing and learning the truth about Christ's finished work (Romans 10:17).

† Salvation here refers to the full covenant deliverance that was reaching its completion in their generation (Hebrews 9:28).

1 Peter 2:3

You have personally experienced that the Lord is good.

† Peter echoes the language of Psalm 34:8, showing that the believers had already tasted the goodness of the Lord through Christ.

† Their faith wasn't theoretical, they had seen God's work unfold through the gospel and the power of Christ's resurrection (Acts 4:33).

† This goodness was displayed through the mercy given to both Jews and Gentiles entering the new covenant kingdom (Ephesians 2:13-16).

1 Peter 2:4

Come to Him, the living stone rejected by men but chosen and honored by God.

† Christ was rejected by the leaders of Israel when they crucified Him (Acts 4:10-11).

† God exalted Him as the true foundation of the new covenant temple (Isaiah 28:16).

† Peter emphasizes that God's choice overturns man's rejection.

1 Peter 2:5

You also, like living stones, are being built together as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

† Believers collectively form the new temple of God (Ephesians 2:20-22).

† The priesthood is no longer limited to the tribe of Levi but belongs to all who are in Christ (Revelation 1:6).

† Spiritual sacrifices include praise, obedience, and faithful living (Hebrews 13:15-16).

1 Peter 2:6

Scripture says that God placed a chosen and precious cornerstone in Zion, and whoever trusts in Him will never be disappointed.

† Peter quotes Isaiah 28:16, pointing directly to Christ as the cornerstone.

† The cornerstone establishes the entire structure of God's new covenant people (Ephesians 2:20).

† Faith in Christ guarantees that believers won't be put to shame when God's judgment came upon the old covenant system (Luke 21:20-22).

1 Peter 2:7

To those who believe, He is precious, but to those who refuse to believe, the stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

† Peter repeats Psalm 118:22, which Jesus Himself applied to the leaders of Israel (Matthew 21:42).

† The builders represent the religious leaders who rejected Christ (Acts 4:10-11).

† Their rejection didn't stop God's plan, it fulfilled prophecy.

1 Peter 2:8

He is also a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, because they refuse to obey the message.

† This language comes from Isaiah 8:14.

† Many in Israel stumbled over Christ because they trusted the law rather than faith (Romans 9:31-33).

† Their stumbling led to the judgment that came upon Jerusalem (Luke 19:41-44).

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own possession, called to declare the greatness of the One who brought you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

† Peter applies Exodus 19:5-6 to believers in Christ.

† The covenant identity once tied to national Israel now belongs to the people gathered through Christ (Galatians 3:28-29).

† The purpose of this calling is to proclaim God's glory.

1 Peter 2:10

You once were not a people, but now you are God's people. Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

† Peter references Hosea 1:9-10 and Hosea 2:23.

† The prophecy about restoring God's people finds fulfillment in Christ bringing both Jews and Gentiles together (Romans 9:24-26).

† Mercy is now extended through the gospel.

1 Peter 2:11

Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to keep away from sinful desires that wage war against your soul.

† Believers were living in a world that opposed their faith (John 15:18-19).

† Peter reminds them their identity was now tied to the heavenly kingdom established through Christ (Philippians 3:20).

† Sinful desires destroy spiritual life and must be resisted.

1 Peter 2:12

Live honorable lives among the nations so that when they accuse you of wrongdoing, they may see your good works and glorify God when He visits them.

† Good conduct silences false accusations (Titus 2:7-8).

† God's visitation refers to His intervention in judgment and salvation during that generation (Luke 19:44).

† Faithful living points others toward God.

1 Peter 2:13

Submit yourselves to every human authority for the Lord's sake, whether to the emperor as the highest authority.

† Peter instructs believers to maintain order and peace within society (Romans 13:1).

† This teaching prevented unnecessary persecution.

† Christians were called to live responsibly even under Roman rule.

1 Peter 2:14

Or to governors who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and praise those who do right.

† Government authorities existed to maintain civil order.

† Peter shows that believers should respect lawful authority.

† Doing good removes grounds for accusation.

1 Peter 2:15

For it is God's will that by doing what is right you silence the ignorance of foolish people.

† The early church was often slandered with false accusations.

† Consistent righteous behavior exposed those lies.

† God's will was for believers to reflect Christ's character.

1 Peter 2:16

Live as free people, but don't use your freedom as an excuse for wrongdoing. Instead live as servants of God.

† Christian freedom isn't permission to sin (Galatians 5:13).

† True freedom is found in serving God faithfully.

† The gospel produces responsibility, not lawlessness.

1 Peter 2:17

Honor everyone, love the brotherhood, fear God, and respect the emperor.

† Peter summarizes proper Christian conduct.

† Honor and respect demonstrate humility and love.

† Fear of God keeps believers grounded in obedience.

1 Peter 2:18

Servants, submit yourselves to your masters with respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to those who are harsh.

† Peter addresses servants living under difficult authority.

† Faithfulness in hardship reflects Christ's example.

† Submission here reflects endurance, not approval of injustice.

1 Peter 2:19

For it is commendable if someone bears up under pain while suffering unjustly because they are conscious of God.

† Enduring suffering for righteousness pleases God.

† Faithfulness during hardship reveals genuine faith.

† God sees and honors such endurance.

1 Peter 2:20

What credit is it if you endure punishment for doing wrong? But if you suffer for doing what is right and endure it, this finds favor with God.

† Peter distinguishes deserved suffering from unjust suffering.

† The latter reflects Christ's path.

† God values faithfulness under persecution.

1 Peter 2:21

You were called for this purpose, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example to follow in His steps.

† Christ's suffering is the model for believers.

† Following Him includes endurance and faithfulness.

† His example demonstrates perfect obedience.

1 Peter 2:22

He committed no sin, and no deception was found in His mouth.

† Peter quotes Isaiah 53:9.

† Christ's innocence shows the injustice of His suffering.

† Yet His suffering brought redemption.

1 Peter 2:23

When He was insulted, He didn't return the insult. When He suffered, He didn't threaten revenge, but entrusted Himself to the One who judges justly.

† Jesus responded to suffering with trust in God.

† His restraint reveals perfect faith.

† Believers are called to follow this pattern.

1 Peter 2:24

He carried our sins in His body on the cross so that we would die to sin and live for righteousness. By His wounds you were healed.

† Peter again references Isaiah 53.

† Christ's sacrifice ended the old covenant system of sin and sacrifice (Hebrews 10:10-14).

† His suffering brought spiritual healing.

1 Peter 2:25

You were like sheep wandering away, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

† Peter reflects the imagery of Isaiah 53:6.

† Christ gathers His people and protects them.

† Believers now live under His care.

Historical References

† Irenaeus wrote that Christ became the cornerstone of God's new temple made of believers, showing that the church replaced the old temple system.

† Justin Martyr explained that the people who follow Christ are the true spiritual Israel and the new priesthood of God.

† Eusebius recorded that after Jerusalem's destruction the church recognized the end of the old covenant temple system.

How It Applies To Us Today

† Believers today are still called to live as God's spiritual house built on Christ.

† Our lives should reflect the character of the kingdom Christ established.

† The same call to holiness, humility, and faithfulness still applies to us now.

Q And A Appendix

Q: Who is the cornerstone mentioned in this chapter?

A: Jesus Christ is the cornerstone chosen by God, the

foundation of God's people (Isaiah 28:16, Ephesians 2:20).

Q: What is the spiritual house Peter describes?

A: The spiritual house is the community of believers who together form God's temple (Ephesians 2:21-22).

Q: Why does Peter call believers a royal priesthood?

A: Because through Christ all believers now serve God directly, replacing the old covenant priesthood (Revelation 1:6).

Q: What does Peter mean when he says believers are living stones?

A: He means believers are being built together as God's spiritual temple, with Christ as the cornerstone and the people of God forming the structure (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Q: What are the spiritual sacrifices believers offer to God?

A: Spiritual sacrifices include praise, obedience, faithful living, and thanksgiving offered through Christ (Hebrews 13:15-16, Romans 12:1).

Q: What does it mean that believers were once not a people but now are God's people?

A: Peter is pointing to the fulfillment of Hosea's prophecy where those once outside the covenant are brought into God's family through Christ (Hosea 2:23, Romans 9:25-26).

Q: Why does Peter emphasize good conduct among the nations?

A: Because righteous behavior exposes false accusations and causes others to see God's work through the lives of believers (Matthew 5:16, Titus 2:7-8).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† 1 Peter 2; Isaiah 28:16; Isaiah 8:14; Isaiah 53:6, 9; Matthew 21:42-43; Luke 19:41-44; Luke 21:20-22; John 15:18-19; Acts 2:42; Acts 4:10-11; Romans 9:31-33; Romans 9:24-26; Romans 13:1; Galatians 3:28-29; Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 4:31-32; Philippians 3:20; Titus 2:7-8; Hebrews 9:28; Hebrews 10:10-14; Hebrews 13:15-16; Revelation 1:6

† Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho; Irenaeus, Against Heresies; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History.

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