

Our Privileges as Christians - 1 Peter 2:1-10

Mel Dahlgren – South Bay Christian Church – August 22, 2020 (Video Conference)

Fundamental Privilege - Feeding on God's Word to Thwart Sin.

V. 1- **Therefore**: Refers to being born again THROUGH God's Word-I Peter 1:23-25
5 steps how sin GROWS: 1-Malice is ill will, dislike, evil is born. 2-Deceit is a two-faced heart. 3-Hypocrisy pretends to be what we are not. 4-Envy holds grudges which leads to 5-Slander=badmouthing.

V. 2- Metaphor: Newborns- automatically nurse. Age 12-my calling/new birth 58 lessons of Correspondence Course. A passion to study the Bible like nursing baby. Loved it. We must crave (panting as deer-Psalm 42:1) milk "basic principles" Hebrews 5:12-13 because you cannot grow up without feeding on the Word of God.

Spiritual growth requires spiritual food and growth (both are privileges V. 1-10) followed by spiritual duties/exercise. (V. 11-25)

V. 3- UNLESS you don't really know (never tasted) God's grace by experience. Then hamstrung, just like the world, (see V. 8.)

V. 4-5- New Metaphor: a building (no longer nursing baby) we are building blocks, requiring work/shaping/exercise, into a spiritual house. God lays corner stone, Jesus, living stone. We: lively stones (life from Him) have our place in building. If missing- there's a hole. Stones have to be shaped to fit a specific place. Sometimes painful chisel. Often we pray "please stop."

Story: Stone mason cutting and shaping a stone. We ask: what doing? "I'm shaping the stone down here so that it can fit up there." Then we see the hole way in the top of the building. And when that stone is joined together with all the other stones, it becomes a part of something very glorious.

V. 6-8- Chief cornerstone Psalms 118:22 most quoted Old Testament scripture in the New Testament – six times.

PRECIOUS- One way to tell if spiritually healthy. Is Jesus "**precious**" to you? If not, need to ask God to change that in you.

Corner stone joins two walls, Jews and Gentiles. (Equal place in the kingdom of God) No wonder he was a stone of stumbling and rock of offense.

V. 9-10- **7 Privileges**: who you, the Church and Body of Christ, are before God.

“But you are:

1-a chosen people, bride- Revelation 19:7

2-a royal priesthood, Old Testament: king or priest; New Testament: “Kings and Priests”
Revelation 5:10 NKJV

3-a holy nation, Isaiah 43:21 “a people I have formed for myself”

4-God’s special possession, EXAMPLE: museum hat, nothing special. Belonged to George Washington=Priceless; museum shoes belonging to Abraham Lincoln=priceless. Belong to Jesus Christ=priceless. Ephesians 2:13 that you may declare the praises of him who

5-called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” = conversion
“Once you were

6-not a people, but now you are the people of God; See 1 Corinthians 1:26
once you had

7-not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” Saul to Paul