

Living stones

...

Heinrich Titus





We are living stones

Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:45 NKJV

"Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen. Our fathers in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our fathers. So it was until the days of David, who found favor in the sight of God and asked to find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. Acts 7:44-46 ESV

What of house will you build for Him?

But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says, "'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?'

Acts 7:47-50 ESV

It starts with the heart

For thus says the High and Lofty One, Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. Isaiah 57:15

1. A house of spirit-filled worship

1. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, from the
words of my groaning? 2. O my God, I cry by day,
but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no
rest. 3. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises
of Israel.

Psalms 22:1-3 ESV

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.

Revelation 22:1-3 ESV

A house of worship not built on pride

And David said to Michal, "It was before the Lord , who chose me above your father and above all his house, to appoint me as prince over Israel, the people of the Lord —and I will celebrate before the Lord . I will make myself yet more contemptible than this, and I will be abased in your eyes. But by the female servants of whom you have spoken, by them I shall be held in honor."

2 Samuel 6:21-22 ESV

As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord , and she despised him in her heart.

2 Samuel 6:16 ESV

A worshipping house invites the reign of God

Where God is praised, He reigns.

Where God reigns, His healing river flows.

Is His river flowing in your heart and through your mouth and body?

Do you desire this river to flow to the nations?

2. A house of passionate prayer

Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

Isaiah 56:7 NKJV

2. A house of passionate prayer

In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there.

And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

John 2:14-17 ESV

2. A house of passionate prayer

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Luke 10:1-2

2. A house of passionate prayer

A house of prayer has an international vision.

A house of prayer is uncomfortable to the comfort of the flesh.

A house of prayer revolves around God's priorities.

3. A house of mercy

And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” Matthew 9:10

3. A house of mercy

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:15-16 ESV

3. A house of mercy

In the house of mercy, both sinners and saints meet at the foot of the cross.

Are you part of the wall of mercy?

4. A house of provision

And David the king said to all the assembly,
"Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen,
is young and inexperienced, and the work is
great, for the palace will not be for man but for
the Lord God.

1 Chronicles 29:1 ESV

4. A house of provision

3So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored stones, all sorts of precious stones and marble.

1 Chronicles 29:2 ESV

4. A house of provision

Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God:

1 Chronicles 29:3 ESV

4. A house of provision

and for all the work to be done by craftsmen, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating himself today to the Lord ?" Then the leaders of fathers' houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officers over the king's work.

1 Chronicles 29:5-6 ESV

4. A house of provision

A house of provision invests in future generations.

A house of provision builds for God's greatness.

A house of provision does see difference between holy and personal and willingly gives.

Are you part of the wall of provision?

Where do your walls need restoration?

1. House of praise and worship
2. House of prayer
3. House of mercy
4. House of provision