

## **LETTERS TO THE EXILES - PART 2**

### **Chosen to Represent**

May 23 & 24, 2015

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#### **1 Peter 2:1-13 (ESV)**

*So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 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. 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." So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.*

## **William Barclay**

*"There are two great days in a person's life - the day we are born and the day we discover why"*

### **Acts 4:11-12 (ESV)**

*This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

## **1. YOU ARE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**

### **Exodus 19:5 (ESV)**

*Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.*

## **2. YOU ARE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT A HOLY NATION**

### **Mark 14:24 (ESV)**

*This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.*

## **3. YOU ARE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT A TREASURED POSSESSION**

### **Hosea 2:23 (NLT)**

*At that time I will plant a crop of Israelites and raise them for myself. I will show love to those I called 'Not loved.' \* And to those I called 'Not my people,' \* I will say, 'Now you are my people.' And they will reply, 'You are our God!'*