

# Jesus-Joy in the Middle...



*Let the Stones Cry Out!*

1 Peter 2:4-8



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Luke 19:38b

“Blessed is the King who  
comes in the name of  
the Lord!’ Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest!”









Luke 19:40b

“I tell you that if these  
should keep silent, the  
STONES would  
immediately cry out.”





Luke 19:40b

“I tell you that if these  
should keep silent, the  
**STONES** would  
immediately cry out.”



Luke 19:40b

“I tell you that if these  
should keep silent, the  
STONES would  
immediately cry out.”





Jesus-Joy in the Middle...



1 Peter 2:4-8

*Let the Stones Cry Out!*



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 2:4



you also, as living stones, are  
being built up a spiritual house, a  
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1 Peter 2:4



you also, as living stones, are  
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holy priesthood, to  
offer up spiritual sacrifices  
acceptable to God through Jesus  
Christ.



1 Peter 2:4



let us continually offer the **sacrifice**  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the **sacrifice**  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the sacrifice  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the sacrifice  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the sacrifice  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name. But do not forget to  
do good and to share, for with such  
sacrifices God is well pleased.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the sacrifice  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name. But do not forget to  
do good and to share, for with such  
sacrifices God is well pleased.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the sacrifice  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name. But do not forget to  
do good and to share, for with such  
sacrifices God is well pleased.



Hebrews 13:15-16



let us continually offer the **sacrifice**  
of praise to God, that is, the  
fruit of our lips, giving thanks to  
His name. But do not forget to  
do good and to share, for with such  
**sacrifices** God is well pleased.



Hebrews 13:15-16



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 2:4



you also, as living stones, are  
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1 Peter 2:4





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1 Peter 2:4





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 2:4





I beseech you therefore, brethren,  
by the mercies of God, that you  
present your bodies a living  
sacrifice holy acceptable  
to God, which is your reasonable  
service.



Romans 12:1



I beseech you therefore, brethren,  
by the mercies of God, that you  
present your BODIES a living  
sacrifice holy acceptable  
to God, which is your reasonable  
service.



Romans 12:1







I beseech you therefore, brethren,  
by the mercies of God, that you  
present your BODIES a living  
sacrifice, holy, acceptable  
to God, which is your reasonable  
service.



Romans 12:1



# Jesus-Joy in the Middle...



*Let the Stones Cry Out!*

1 Peter 2:4-8







# Jesus-Joy in the Middle...



*Let the Stones Cry Out!*

1 Peter 2:4-8



Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed by men, but by  
God, chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



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 2:5



Because it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen and honored, and he who believes on Him will not be put to shame.”



1 Peter 2:6



Therefore, the honor is to you who believe, but to those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone,”



1 Peter 2:7



and “A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.” They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.



1 Peter 2:8



The empowering symmetry between...

But d





The empowering symmetry between...  
**Jesus** [THE living stone]

But d



The empowering symmetry between...

**Jesus**

**[THE living stone]**

**The Church**

**[WE living stones]**

But d





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[ <b>wee little</b> stones]



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[WE living stones]





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 1. Living

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed by men, but by  
God, chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[WE living stones]

## 1. Living





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 1. Living

If Christ is not risen, your  
faith is futile; you are still in your  
sins!



1 Corinthians 15:17b

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[WE living stones]

## 1. Living





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

# 1. Living

[Jesus] was delivered up

because of our offenses,

and was raised because of our

justification. Romans 4:25





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

# 1. Living

[Jesus] was delivered up

because of our offenses,

and was raised because of our

justification.

Romans 4:25





“Most assuredly, I say to you, he  
who hears My word and  
believes in Him who sent Me  
has everlasting LIFE, and shall  
not come into judgment, but  
has passed from death into  
LIFE.”

John 5:24

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[WE living stones]

## 1. Living





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 1. Living

you also, as LIVING stones, are  
being built up a spiritual house. . .  
acceptable to God through Jesus  
Christ.

1 Peter 2:5



Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to His abundant  
mercy has begotten us again  
into a LIVING hope through  
the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3



having been born again, not of  
corruptible seed  
but incorruptible, through the  
word of God which LIVES  
and abides forever.

1 Peter 1:23

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
The Church	[WE living stones]





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

Coming to Him as to a living stone

...you also, as living stones . . .



1 Peter 2:4,a, 5a

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

“Behold, I lay in Zion a chief  
cornerstone, chosen and honored,  
and he who believes on Him will  
by no means be put to shame.”



1 Peter 2:6

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

. . . you are God's field, God's  
building



1 Corinthians 3:9b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

. . . members of the **household** of  
God, having been built on the  
foundation of the apostles and  
prophets, Jesus Christ Himself  
being the chief cornerstone.



Ephesians 1:19b-20



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

## 2. stones

. . . members of the household of  
God, having been built on the  
foundation of the apostles and  
prophets, Jesus Christ Himself  
being the chief cornerstone.



Ephesians 1:19b-20



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

you also, as living stones, are being

built into an eternal house, a

**holy priesthood**, to offer up

spiritual sacrifices acceptable to

God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

you also, as living stones, are being

built into a spiritual house, a

holy priesthood, to offer up

spiritual sacrifices acceptable to

God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
they labor in vain who build it.



Psalm 127:1a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
they labor in vain who build it.



Psalm 127:1a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

For by one **Spirit** we were all  
baptized into one body. . .and have  
all been made to drink into one  
**Spirit**



1 Corinthians 12:13



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

There are diversities of gifts,  
but the same **Spirit** . . . the  
manifestation of the **Spirit** is given  
to each one for the profit of all:]



1 Corinthians 12:4-7



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 2. stones

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 2:5



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

3.



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

3.

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

3.

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
**by men.** but **by God,**  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

3.

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by **men**, but by God.  
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1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

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1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

### 3. Rejected by men

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by **men**, but by **God**,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

### 3. Rejected by men

. . . to those who are disobedient,

“The stone which the builders  
rejected has become the chief  
cornerstone,”



1 Peter 2:7



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

### 3. Rejected by men

Have you not even read this  
Scripture: 'The stone which the  
builders rejected has become the  
chief cornerstone.'



Mark 12:10

let it be known to you all . . .  
that by the name of Jesus  
Christ of Nazareth, whom you  
crucified, whom God raised  
from the dead, by Him this man  
stands here before you whole.

Acts 4:10-12



This is the 'stone which was  
rejected by you builders, which  
has become the chief  
cornerstone.'

Acts 4:10-12

This is the 'stone which was  
rejected by you builders, which  
has become the chief  
cornerstone.'

Acts 4:10-12



Nor is there salvation in any  
other, for there is no other  
name under heaven given  
among men by which we must  
be saved.

Acts 4:10-12

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

### 3. Rejected by men





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

### 3. Rejected by men

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
**rejected** indeed  
by **men**, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored.



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored.



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

. . . **chosen** according to the  
foreknowledge of God the Father,  
through the sanctifying work of the  
Spirit



1 Peter 1:2a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

. . . **chosen** according to the  
foreknowledge of God the Father,  
through the sanctifying work of the  
Spirit



1 Peter 1:2a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

[Christ] indeed was foreknown  
before the foundation of the  
world. . .]



1 Peter 1:20a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

They stumble at the word,  
being disobedient, to which  
they also were appointed.



1 Peter 2:8b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

They stumble at the word,  
being disobedient, to which  
they also were appointed.



1 Peter 2:8b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

[Jesus] being delivered by the  
determined purpose and  
foreknowledge of God,  
**YOU** have taken by lawless hands,  
have crucified, and put to death.



Acts 2:23



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

[Jesus] being delivered by the  
determined purpose and  
foreknowledge of God,  
YOU have taken by lawless hands,  
have crucified, and put to death.



Acts 2:23



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

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determined purpose and  
foreknowledge of God,  
YOU have taken by lawless hands,  
have crucified, and put to death.



Acts 2:23



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

#### 4. Chosen by God

[Jesus] being delivered by the  
determined purpose and  
foreknowledge of God,  
YOU have taken by lawless hands,  
have crucified, and put to death.



Acts 2:23

The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 5. Honored by God



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God





The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

Coming to Him as to a living stone,  
rejected indeed  
by men, but by God,  
chosen and honored,



1 Peter 2:4



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

[. . . faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ



1 Peter 1:7b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

[. . . faith, being much more precious  
than gold that perishes, though it is  
tested by fire, may be found to result  
in praise, glory, and honor at the  
revelation of Jesus Christ



1 Peter 1:7b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus	[THE living stone]
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The Church	[WE living stones]
------------	--------------------

5. Honored by God

[. . . faith, being much more precious  
than gold that perishes, though it is  
tested by fire, may be found to result  
in praise, glory, and honor at the  
revelation of Jesus Christ



1 Peter 1:7b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

Therefore, the honor *is* to you who  
believe . . .



1 Peter 2:7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

Therefore, the honor *is* to you who  
believe . . .



1 Peter 2:7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

Therefore, the honor is to you who  
believe . . .



1 Peter 2:6b-7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

## 5. Honored by God

. . . he who believes on Him will  
by no means be put to shame.

Therefore, the honor is to you who  
believe . . .



1 Peter 2:6b-7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

. . . he who believes on Him will  
**by no means** be put to shame.

Therefore, the honor is to you who  
believe . . .



1 Peter 2:6b-7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

## 5. Honored by God

... he who believes on Him will  
by no means be put to shame.

Therefore, the honor is to you who  
believe ...



1 Peter 2:6b-7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

... he who believes on Him will  
by no means be put to shame.

Therefore, the honor is to you who  
believe ...



1 Peter 2:6b-7a



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus

[THE living stone]

The Church

[WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

...heirs of God and joint heirs with  
Christ, if indeed we suffer  
with Him, that we may also be  
glorified together!



Romans 8:17b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

5. Honored by God

...heirs of God and joint heirs with

Christ, if indeed we suffer  
with Him, that we may also be  
glorified together!



Romans 8:17b



The empowering symmetry between...

Jesus [THE living stone]

The Church [WE living stones]

## 5. Honored by God

Beloved, now we are children of God;  
and it has not yet been revealed what  
we shall be, but we know that when  
He is revealed, we shall be like Him,  
for we shall see Him as He is.



1 John 3:2



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# Jesus-Joy in the Middle...



*Let the Stones Cry Out!*

1 Peter 2:4-8