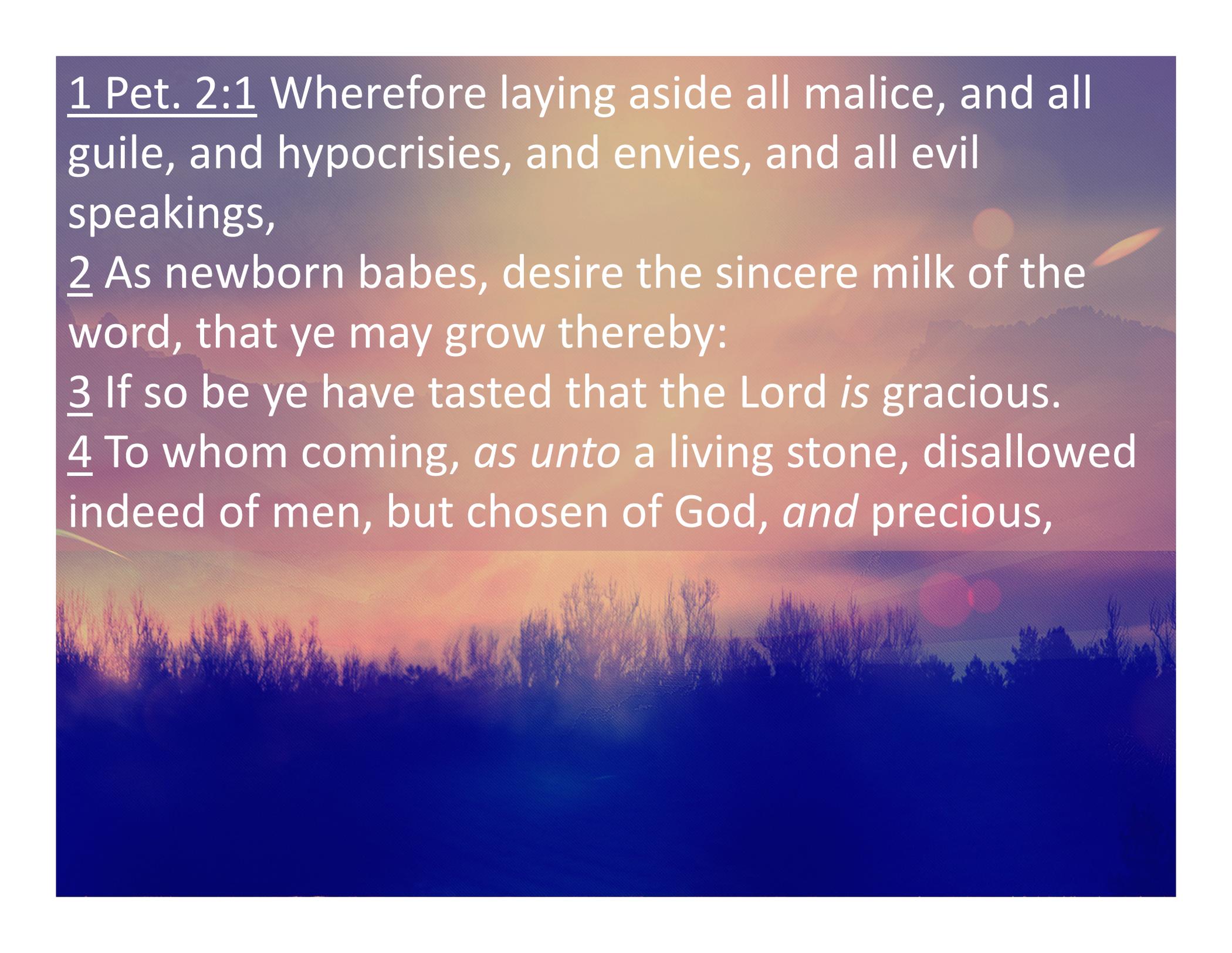


A sunset scene with a large, bright sun partially obscured by a dark, silhouetted hillside in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The water in the middle ground reflects the colors of the sky. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

1 Pet.2:4a-b

“The Spiritual Description of a Believer Who Lives a Renewed Life.”



1 Pet. 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

4 To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,

I. THE QUESTION OF SALVATION, 1:5-8

II. THE QUESTION OF SCRIPTURE, 1:9-12

III. THE QUESTION OF SANCTIFICATION

IV. THE QUESTION OF SEPARATION, 2:1-12

A. Its Requirement, 2:1

B. Its Reasons, 2:2-11

1. Separation by Birth from the Old Life, 2:2-3

Last week we considered *“The Spiritual Appetite of a Renewed Mind”* and this morning we focus upon *“The Spiritual Description of a Believer Who Lives a Renewed Life.”*

- Verses 4 through 10 contain one of the largest collections of Old Testament images in the New Testament.
- This morning, we will focus upon the Holy Spirit’s moving of the Apostle Peter referring to the Old Testament illustration of the Lord Jesus Christ being a “stone” or “Rock.”

Isa. 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for **a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation**: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Psa. 118:22 **The stone which the builders refused** is become the head *stone* of the corner.

- The word used for 'stone,' both here and in verse 5, signifies a stone dressed for building rather than a piece of raw rock or a boulder.

Original Word: λίθος

Transliteration: lithos

Definition: a stone

Usage: a stone; met: of Jesus as the chief stone in a building.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3037.htm>

- Here Peter began to give the basis on which the four preceding exhortations rest. These exhortations were:
 - (1) be holy (1:13- 16),
 - (2) be fearing (1:17-21),
 - (3) be loving (1:22-25), and
 - (4) be consuming the Word (2:1-3).

- These four qualities grow out of our relationship to God who has begotten us.

“The Spiritual Description of a Believer Who Lives a Renewed Life.”

2. Separation by Belief from the Old Life, 2:4-10

- Believers are characterized by a changed life after salvation (2 Cor. 5:17.)
- A major change is the attitude of appreciation for the Lord Jesus Christ.

a. The Preciousness of Christ, 2:4-8

(1) The Living Stone and Its Character, 2:4

(a) The Stone Described, 2:4a “To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone...”

- Verse four is a revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ to believers.
- Not only is Jesus Christ the source of the believers' spiritual sustenance, He is also their Foundation ("living stone").

- "Living stone" is an oxymoron, (a figure of speech in which the writer joins contradictory or incongruous terms to make a point – like “living sacrifice.”)

Deut. 32:4 **He is the Rock**, his work *is* perfect: for all his ways *are* judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right *is* he. ...

15 But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered *with fatness*; then he forsook God *which* made him, and **lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.** ...

18 Of **the Rock *that* begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.**

30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had

31 For **their rock is not as our Rock**, even our enemies themselves *being* judges.

Psa. 18:2 **The LORD is my rock**, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, *and* my high tower. ...

31 For who *is* God save the LORD? or **who is a rock save our God?** ...

46 The LORD liveth; and blessed *be* my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

Psa 62:2 He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *he is* my defence; I shall not be greatly moved. ...

6 He only *is* my rock and my salvation: *he is* my defence; I shall not be moved.

Mt. 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto **a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:**

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for **it was founded upon a rock.**

Mt. 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter (*petros*), and **upon this rock (*petra*) I will build my church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Jn. 1:42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, **A stone**.

- Another revelation of truth is that religious people reject the Lord Jesus Christ.

(b) The Stone Discarded, 2:4b
“...disallowed indeed of men...”

Original Word: ἀποδοκιμάζω

Transliteration: apodokimazó

Definition: to reject

Usage: I reject after testing (examination), disqualify.
(disallowed)

apodokimázō (**properly, to cast away after thorough investigation (testing); to reject after determining something is useless (unworthy). (To reject as the result of disapproval.)**)

<https://biblehub.com/greek/593.htm>

- Why was Jesus “disallowed” by the religious crowd and consequently, crucified?

Isa. 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: **he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.**

- The lost reject the light of the Savior.

Jn. 3:19 And **this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

20 For **every one that doeth evil hateth the light,** neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

2 Pet. 2:22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, **The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.**

- The Lord Jesus and Scriptural Christianity is NOT appealing to the lost world.

Mt. 21:42 Jesus saith unto them, **Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected,** the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

Acts 4:11 This is **the stone which was set at nought of you builders,** which is become the head of the corner.

- The reason people go to hell is because they have REJECTED the Lord Jesus Christ.

Prov. 1:24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

- The Lord Jesus is either a *precious stone* or a *stumbling stone*.

1 Pet. 2:7 **Unto you therefore which believe *he is precious***: but unto them which be disobedient, **the stone which the builders disallowed**, the same is made the head of the corner,
8 And **a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them which stumble at the word***, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Conclusion

1 Pet. 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

10 Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Mt. 11:28 **Come unto me**, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Jn. 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

Jn. 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and **him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.**