

Jesus, A Foundation or A Ruin 1 Peter 2:4-9

Everything you do is determined by a belief or beliefs, certain principles. How you make sense of the world is governed by your beliefs. These beliefs become the foundation of your worldview (the platform from which you stand to make sense of the world). Every society is governed by principles which are the foundations upon which nations are built. The most important part of a building is the foundation, if the foundation is not strong, it doesn't matter how beautiful the building is.

Webster's definition of foundation: *a usually stone or concrete structure that supports a building from underneath, Something like an idea, a principle or a fact that provides support for something. Both definitions agree with the idea that a foundation supports.*

When you go through the Bible you find a lot of titles for Jesus, the Lamb of God, Savior, Messiah, Word of God and so forth. Jesus is also known as the *Living Stone*. Jesus is known as the foundation stone.

1 Pet.2:4-9

As you come to Him (Jesus) The Living Stone.

Peter said that Jesus as a Living stone has been rejected by men, but chosen by God. **It was God's idea that Jesus became the foundation stone for people.**

When someone comes to Christ, he/she becomes a living stone that God uses to build his house (temple). It is our connection with Christ that makes us living stone, part of God's building project. God's house is called a holy priesthood, in other words, this spiritual house is to offer sacrifices to him. ***This house is for the worship of God.***

The apostle Paul also used this imagery of a building and Jesus as the Cornerstone. Eph. 2:19-22 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,^d but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **20**built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, **21**in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. **22**In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by^e the Spirit. ESV

Jesus is God's precious Stone for a foundation. (v.6)

"See, I lay in Zion a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

This is a quote from **Isaiah 28:16** *So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed. NIV*

Peter addressed the religious leaders of his days and said: Acts 4:11-12 Jesus is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. Salvation is found in no one else for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Jesus is the firm foundation for those who believe, He is the precious stone for a firm foundation (1 Pet.2:7)

But to those who don't believe, Jesus becomes a stumbling stone. Jesus can be both, he is either a stone for a firm foundation or a stone that you trip over.

Paul describes Jesus as a Stumbling stone, Rom.9:32-33 They stumbled over the Stumbling Stone.

Jesus is a Rock that makes people fall. **This is what a prophet said about Jesus when he was just a baby. Luke 2:34** Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,

Jesus is either a foundation or he'd be your ruin. HE is either the cornerstone for your life or he will be the stone that will make you trip and fall.

Those who don't believe in Jesus will stumble over him and fall to their ruin. This is what God has already determined.

The difference is going to be what you choose to do with Jesus. He will either be your firm foundation or you will trip over him and end in destruction.

John, the gospel writer says it this way **John 3:16-18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son**

Jesus is either your foundation or your ruin. You will have to do something with Jesus because your destiny is based on what you choose to do with him. My prayer is that he is to you the firm foundation.