

“1 Peter 2:4-5 – Part 3”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbig sandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of August 29, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued a five-part series about 1 Peter 2:4-5 before the Day of Trumpets. From time to time through the years, I had spoken about 1 Peter 2:4-5 by mainly concentrating upon three concepts mentioned there. (Those three concepts will be covered in this series as Parts 3, 4 and 5. But Parts 1 and 2 include additional information added to this series.).

- Part 1 – “Christ was chosen by God to be a living stone.”
- Part 2 – “You are to be a living stone.”
- Part 3 – “You are being built up as a spiritual house.”
- Part 4 – “You are being built up as a holy priesthood.”
- Part 5 – “You are to offer spiritual sacrifices – acceptable to God.”

Spiritual house

This article will focus upon part 3—“You are being built up as a spiritual house.”

- 1 Peter 2:5—“You . . . are being built up a spiritual house.”

The tabernacle

Before there was a temple, there was a tabernacle.

- Exodus 25:8—The Lord said: “Let them make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.”
- Exodus 25:9—The Lord gave them a pattern of the tabernacle and its furnishings.
- Exodus 25:21-22—The Lord said that He would meet with them above the mercy seat.
- Exodus 29:42—The Lord mentioned the door of the tabernacle of meeting, where He would speak with them.

Then, the Lord wanted temples to replace the tabernacle.

Solomon’s temple

- 2 Samuel 7:1-2—David said to Nathan: “I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.”
- 2 Samuel 7:5-6—The Lord asked David: “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt (even to this day). But I have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle.”

- 2 Samuel 7:7—When the Lord the children of Israel around, did He ever ask for a house of cedar?
- 2 Samuel 7:12-13—The Lord informed David that his son would build a house for the Lord.

Zerubbabel's temple

- Ezra 1:1-4
- Ezra 6:15

Herod's temple

- Luke 2:22-24
- Luke 2:41-46

Christ is the temple

- John 2:14-16—Christ went to the temple, and did not like the merchandising He saw in the temple.
- John 2:17—Christ quoted Psalm 69:9.
- John 2:18—The Jews wanted a sign.
- John 2:19—Christ replied: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”
- John 2:20—The people responded: “It has taken 46 years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?”
- John 2:21—Christ was speaking of the temple of His body.

Major change, but slow transition

When Christ died, there was a major change. But there was a slow transition for some until the temple was destroyed in 70 A.D.

- Matthew 27:51—When Christ died, “the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.”
- Acts 21:18-25—James and other elders asked Paul to do some rituals in the temple to comfort some of the troubled brethren.
- Hebrews 8:1-2—The author of the book of Hebrews wrote: “We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens—a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected.”
- Hebrews 9:2—The original tabernacle was prepared and called the sanctuary.
- Hebrews 9:3-5—Behind the second veil (which is called the Holiest of All) were specific items.
- Hebrews 9:6—The first part was for specific service.

- Hebrews 9:7—Into the second part went the high priest alone once a year.
- Hebrews 9:11—“But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come – with the greater and more perfect tabernacle (not made with hands).”
- Hebrews 9:12-14—No blood of goats or calves, but the blood of Christ.
- Revelation 21:3—“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them. And they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them, and be their God.”

Saints are called temples

- Acts 7:48—Stephen said: “The Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands.”
- Acts 7:24—Paul said: God “does not dwell in temples made with hands.”
- 1 Corinthians 3:16—“Do you not know that you are the temple of God?”
- 1 Corinthians 3:17—“If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.”
- 1 Corinthians 6:19—“Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit?”
- 2 Corinthians 6:16—“What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said, ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ ”

Fitly framed together

- Ephesians 2:19—You are fellow citizens with the saints. You are members of the household of God.
- Ephesians 2:20—You have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets – with Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.
- Ephesians 2:21—In Christ, the whole building is being fitted together and is growing into a holy temple in the Lord.
- Ephesians 2:22—In Christ, you are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.