

03-06-11

Series: The Resurrections

The Resurrections (46)

The Judgment of Seat of Christ (21)

[\(1 Corinthians 3:10-17\)](#)

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

[Matthew 28:1-10](#)

(Continuation from 02-27-11)

The Doctrine of the Resurrections

[\(1 Corinthians 3:10-17\)](#)

The judgment of the works of the believers (11)

4. [\(1 Corinthians 3:12\) Church— Teachers, False: there is the structure: It can be built out of two possible materials: either permanent or perishable materials.](#)

[1 Corinthians 3:12 \(NASB\)](#)

¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw.

- c. They are the souls and lives of men, women, boys, and girls who become living stones in the church. ([1 Peter 2:4-5](#); [Mark 16:15](#); [Matthew 16:26](#))

Spiritual Privileges—Part 1: Union with Christ and [\(1 Peter 2:4-5\)](#)

[1 Peter 2:4-5 \(NASB\)](#)

⁴ And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God,

⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

The dictionary defines **privilege** as “a right or immunity granted as a peculiar benefit, advantage, or favor,” which may be “attached specifically to a position or an office.” It is a blessing or freedom enjoyed by some people, but which most people cannot take advantage of. Christians are a special class of people who enjoy unique and eternal spiritual favors—granted by God—because of their position in Christ. In this portion of his first letter, Peter continually examines the kaleidoscopic array of Christian privilege and rearranges the same basic truths into multiple images so that his readers might see the multifaceted glory of what it means to be children of God.

Many believers view the Christian life more from the standpoint of spiritual duty rather than spiritual privilege. They tend to be preoccupied with the temporal pressures of what they view as obligations and do not cherish the lasting privileges

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God has given them to enjoy. They often think of those as blessings reserved for heaven, to be appreciated only in the presence of God and Christ in that place of perfect joy, peace, harmony, unity, rest, knowledge, and wisdom. Since there will be no sickness, pain, or death, heaven appears to be the realm where everything is privilege and nothing is duty. However, the privileges of heaven will not exclude duty but will combine perfectly with it in an eternity of worshiping, honoring, serving, and exalting the Lord. So spiritual duty and spiritual privilege are not mutually exclusive for believers, either in this life or in the life to come. In this passage, the apostle emphasizes the richness of the privileges believers already have in Christ.

The Privilege of Union with Christ ([1 Peter 2:5](#)).

When sinners come in faith to Christ, the “**living stone**,” they too become **living stones**; when someone believes in Christ he shares His life (cf. [John 17:21, 23](#); [2 Corinthians 3:18](#); [Ephesians 4:15-16](#); [1 John 3:2](#)). To be **living stones** means that believers have the eternal life of Christ. They are united with Him, which is their first spiritual privilege. They do not just worship Him, obey Him, and pray to Him; they are united with Him as stones in a spiritual building of which He is the cornerstone. Christians become partakers of the divine nature: “**For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory**” ([Colossians 3:3-4](#); cf. [Galatians 2:20](#)). In addition, Paul told the Ephesians, “**So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,.....**” ([Ephesians 2:19-22](#); cf. [1 Corinthians 3:9](#))

The foundation of this spiritual building (“**household**”) is the apostles' doctrine (cf. [Acts 2:42](#)), the Scripture, which by the Holy Spirit they faithfully received and taught (cf. [John 14:26](#); [John 15:26-27](#); [John 16:13](#); [2 Timothy 3:16](#); [2 Peter 1:19-21](#); [2 Peter 3:1-2, 16](#)).

Believers, in their union with Christ, have spiritual resources to meet their every need. That is why Paul could pray on behalf of the Ephesians, “**Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us**” ([Ephesians 3:20](#); cf. [Galatians 2:20](#); [Colossians 1:29](#)).

And it is the reason he could tell the Romans, “**I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed**” ([Romans 15:18](#)). Paul's evangelistic effectiveness resulted from the power of Christ working through him (cf. [Acts 13:46-48](#); [1 Corinthians 2:1-5](#); [1 Timothy 2:7](#); [2 Timothy 4:17](#)). The power of Christ energizes all spiritual service by believers (cf. [1 Corinthians 1:30](#); [Philippians 4:13](#); [2 Timothy 2:21](#)) and is resident in them because of their union with Him ([John 15:4-11](#)). Those who trust Christ for salvation become themselves **living stones** like their Savior and Lord and are privileged to access the spiritual power that resides in Him.