



1 Peter

The New Temple of God

**1 Peter 2:4-6
Study Guide**

- 1. The Bible is filled with metaphors. It is a wonderful way to teach truth. Take some time to review your understanding of the interpretation of figures of speech and especially metaphors. You can look up the word “metaphor” in a dictionary. What is it? How is a metaphor different from a simile? Peter uses the metaphor of a building to describe the church (vv. 4-6). What other metaphors are used in the New Testament to describe the church (1 Cor. 12:19-22; 1 Peter 5:2)?**
- 2. Since a metaphor is the use of comparison, how is the church like a temple according to 1 Peter 2:4-6? Who is the foundation, the cornerstone, the living stones? In verse 4 Peter speaks of his readers as “coming to Him.” What does he mean by this? The answer to this question will tell you something very important about the relationship between believers and their Lord.**
- 3. What does the apostle Paul call the church in 1 Corinthians 3:16 and Ephesians 2:21? How does this harmonize with what Peter is saying about the church? Who is the Rock upon whom the church is built (Matt. 16:18)? Are all believers priests in this new temple of God (1 Pet. 2:9; Heb. 4:16; Rev. 1:6)? Who is the only mediator needed for believers? Why do we not need Mary or any of the saints to be our mediators before God?**
- 4. What kind of sacrifices are the “spiritual sacrifices” referred to in verse 5 (Heb. 13:15; Rom. 12:1)? Peter quotes Isaiah 28:16 in order to document the spiritual house principle? Why is the cornerstone so important to the structure of the new temple? Who is the Stone? Who has provided the Stone? What is the believer’s relationship to the Stone?**
- 5. What kind of promise is attached to the truth of the new temple (v. 6b)? In what way would this promise have meant something special to Peter’s readers? What were their circumstances? How does this bring encouragement to you?**
- 6. There is a great battle that is being waged throughout the church age. When you were born again by the Spirit of God you entered into this warfare in a very special way. Today the church is under a fierce attack from the enemies of the faith of Christians. Think of some ways in which Peter’s discussion of the church as a new temple brings needed confidence to those who belong to Christ and engaged in a struggle for the soul’s of men.**