

**1 Peter 2:2-10 The Message (MSG)**

**2** <sup>1-3</sup> So clean house! Make a clean sweep of malice and pretense, envy and hurtful talk. You've had a taste of God. Now, like infants at the breast, drink deep of God's pure kindness. Then you'll grow up mature and whole in God.

## **The Stone**

**4-8** Welcome to the living Stone, the source of life. The workmen took one look and threw it out; God set it in the place of honor. Present yourselves as building stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which you'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God. The Scriptures provide precedent:

Look! I'm setting a stone in Zion,  
a cornerstone in the place of honor.

Whoever trusts in this stone as a foundation  
will never have cause to regret it.

To you who trust him, he's a Stone to be proud of, but to those  
who refuse to trust him,

The stone the workmen threw out  
is now the chief foundation stone.

For the untrusting it's

. . . a stone to trip over,  
a boulder blocking the way.

They trip and fall because they refuse to obey, just as predicted.

**9-10** But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.