



## LESSON 125 MARK 12:10-12

**10 Have you not even read this Scripture: ‘The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. 11 This was the Lord’s doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes’?” 12 And they sought to lay hands on Him, but feared the multitude, for they knew He had spoken the parable against them. So they left Him and went away.**

There are many references to the Rock and the Stone in scripture. Let's look at some of them before we study these verses.

God is our Rock. Ps 62:2 Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

He is the Rock, our firm Foundation. Ps 40:1-4 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust....

### The Smitten Stone

God's Son is the smitten Rock: In Exodus 17:6, in the wilderness of the desert, the Rock was struck and it brought forth water to save the Hebrews from thirst and death. 1 Cor 10:4 tells us the Rock symbolized Christ, smitten for us on the cross. (Isaiah 53:4) He was the means of giving us the water of life, the Holy Spirit, to satisfy our spiritual thirst for God and save us from death. (John 4:13, 14, 7:37-39)

### The Stone of Stumbling

Christ the Messiah is also called the Stone of stumbling in the Old Testament and the New Testament. Isa 8:13-14 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin (trap) and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.

The stone does nothing to cause a person to stumble. The person is not looking where he is going, so he misses seeing the stone in his path and stumbles over it. There is a spiritual lesson in this. Romans 9:31-33 elaborates on this theme. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. The stumbling block is the Person of Christ and faith in Him is required for salvation. In 1 Corinthians, more is explained. 1 Cor 1:21-24 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of

preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The Jews thought they could work for salvation, establishing their own righteousness, but their righteousnesses were as filthy rags in God's sight. Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. Only a humble heart, seeking salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross, can receive eternal life. Jesus was a stumbling Stone to the Jews, because, for the most part, they would not accept Him as their Lord and Savior. They rejected Him and the Father Who sent Him. John 5:23 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

**Luke 10:16 He that heareth you heareth me (Jesus); and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him (God the Father) that sent me.**

### **The Cornerstone**

The cornerstone of an edifice is placed first and every other brick or stone in the building is laid in reference to it. Jesus Christ is the chief Cornerstone of the church. 1 Cor 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 2:20-21 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.**

**Matt 16:18 upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

Believers in Jesus Christ are also stones, living ones, built upon Christ to make the holy temple, the dwelling place of God through the Holy Spirit being in them. 1 Peter 2:5-8 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient:..

**Mark 12:10 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. 11 This was the Lord's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes' ..." The Smiting Stone**

Previously, we have seen the Rock smitten at the cross, Whom the Jews stumbled on by not believing in Him. He became the Cornerstone of the Grace Age church that would be built upon Him, made up of those who would believe in Him. Next He comes as a Smiting Stone, when He returns in the second coming to judge the world and to destroy His enemies. Daniel 2:34-35, 44-45 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet

that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces... And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Matt 21:44 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner:.. on whomsoever it shall fall (D: in judgment of His enemies), it will grind him to powder. Matt 25:41, 46 (To those who were never His), Then shall he say also unto them..., Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels... And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

### **The Head Stone**

The Cornerstone is in the foundation of a building. It is the beginning of it and everything that comes after it must be aligned with it. The Headstone is the last stone to be set in place at the top of a building and how well it fits is a testimony of the excellence of the work done, and of how and whether the builders carefully obeyed the architect's plan and instructions.

Christ is our Cornerstone; He is our Headstone. He is the beginning and the end; the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last.

As our Headstone, He will rule on the Earth one day soon as King of all kings. Zechariah 4:6-7 This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts... and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

In that day, the people of the Earth will bow to Jesus Christ and obey His commands. Those who have been disciples of Christ and who have honored Him in their lives will reign with Him. Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Read Rev 20:7-15, 21:1-8 if you want to know what happens after the thousand years.)

**This was the Lord's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes." (Mark 12:11)**

**Back**

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