

I & 2 PETER – LESSON 3

III. THE CALL TO SPIRITUAL EXCELLENCE (2:1-10)

- A. The call to spiritual growth (2:1-4)
 - 1. Demands putting away all wickedness
 - 2. Demands longing for the spiritually nourishing word
 - 3. Growth's goal: "unto salvation"
 - 4. Motivation: "tasted that the Lord is gracious"

- B. A call to spiritual worship (2:5-8)
 - 1. Christians are living stones comprising a spiritual house.
 - 2. Christians are a holy priesthood offering up spiritual sacrifices through Jesus Christ.
 - 3. Christians, in their obedience, build on Christ as the true head of the corner.
 - a. Others, in their disbelief, find Christ a stone of stumbling.

- C. A call to show forth the excellencies of God (2:9-10)
 - 1. Christians are an elect race.
 - 2. Christians are a holy nation, special unto God.
 - 3. Christians are a people who have obtained God's mercy.
 - 4. Purpose: to manifest the virtuous qualities of God

QUESTIONS:

1. What *four specific forms* of wickedness must the Christian put away?

2. How is the Christian to be like a newborn baby?

3. How does Christ appear to Christians, and how does He appear before God?

4. Does Christianity provide for a special priesthood apart from other Christians? Why do people ignore this in their churches?

5. What kind of sacrifices do Christians offer?

