

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#34: “Place in the Corner Stone of Christ Jesus”

At the point of salvation the believer is placed in the cornerstone of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the **corner stone**,

1 Peter 2:6 For *this* is contained in Scripture: "Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious **corner stone**, And he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed."

Some translations inaccurately translate cornerstone as chief cornerstone (e.g., KJV). However, there is no justification for this. Let's examine exactly what cornerstone refers to. The Greek word is *akrogoniaios* which is a combination of *akros* which means “the high point,” the “top,” or “the extreme limit, end” and *gonia* which means “corner, angle.” Thus, the basic idea is “placed at the extreme corner” or “at the tip of the angle.” The cornerstone was the stone that was put at the juncture of two walls in order that the two walls might be tied together by this one stone that belonged to both. Thus, the cornerstone would have reference to that which unites the two in itself. The cornerstone was the stone that was at an angle of the substructure into which the converging sides are embedded. Furthermore, the cornerstone was also used to govern all of the lines and all of the angles of a building. It was the stone that was used to fix a standard for the bearings of the walls and cross-walls throughout the building.

Paul explains in the context how Christ is the cornerstone in bringing both Jew and Gentile together in one building:

Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the **corner stone**, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

This passage not only includes the positional truth of being placed in the cornerstone of Christ, it also includes fantastic phase 2 application (phase 1=salvation, phase 2=after salvation, phase 3 = with the Lord). Note the “growing!” To stay with the metaphor of stones, we are to be growing stones in this building of God—we are, like Christ, called living stones (1 Pet. 2:5). We are we living stones which derive our life from the Living Stone. Not only are we living stones placed in the cornerstone of God's Temple of church age believers, we are also ourselves temples of God. In the Old Testament God dwelt in the Holy of Holies in the Temple on earth,

but in the church age God actually dwells in each believer in a way that was unheard of in the Old Testament. We are temples of God! Excuse me for becoming experiential, but Wow! What a transcendent thing for a soul to be aware of!

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

A being given being by Being,

Pastor Don