

**DATE:** Saturday - Sunday, May 23-24, 2020

**SERIES: LIVING IN THE PARENTHESIS:** *Steps to a Joyful and Meaningful Life*

**SERMON:** Who are We?

**1 Peter 2:1-10 NIV**

[1] Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.

[2] Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,

[3] now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

[4] As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him

[5] you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

[6] For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

[7] Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

[8] and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message - which is also what they were destined for.

[9] But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

[10] Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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*Who are we? ...*

1. We are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.1-3) -

- Called to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Called to \_\_\_\_\_.

2. We are \_\_\_\_\_ of a new, eternal \_\_\_\_\_ -

- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (v.10).

3. We are \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ (v.9).

- *God sustained during the pandemic, and He is not going away.*

# Lagniappe

As we regather, we have much for which to be thankful. This would be a good time for us to remember those areas.

*First, I am thankful for the faithfulness of the church during this time.* You have ministered to, and cared for, one another in difficult times. You have also cared for many individuals outside the church by buying groceries, caring for people who are struggling, donating food, and being prayer warriors.

I am deeply appreciative to see the church being the church.

*Second, I am thankful for the pastors and staff members of First Baptist Church.* They have done “whatever is necessary“ during this time and I am thankful to be associated with this wonderful group of people.

Aaron Beasley is one of these people. Aaron moved here several years ago to go to Leavell College of New Orleans Seminary and joined with us to lead music in our student ministry.

Aaron came here single – now he has a beautiful wife and two young children. They are moving back to their home area for Aaron to serve as Student Minister at Southside Baptist Church in Dothan, Alabama. We are thankful God has given him this leadership opportunity of that student ministry.

Please be in prayer for Aaron, Melissa and their children.

*Third, I am thankful to our good and gracious God who has protected this congregation and has been with us through it all.* As He has been our help in ages past, He is our hope for years to come. Let us praise and honor Him today.

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