

1 Peter
Part Three: The Favorite
Pastor Rick Henderson **February 18-19, 2023**

QUESTION: What do you do, and what are you like whenever you feel *insignificant, insecure, and dissatisfied*?

1 PETER 2:1 *Therefore **rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.***

SERIES THESIS: Let your **IDENTITY** drive your **ACTIVITY**.

Grace is opposed to **EARNING**, not **EFFORT**. (Dallas Willard)

GET RID OF:

- Malice
- Deceit
- Hypocrisy
- Envy
- Slander

Self-protection, self-assertion, and self-centeredness are deeply engrained mechanisms that destroy relationships...This is completely inappropriate for people brought into Jesus' kingdom. It's anti-Jesus.
—Jon Tyson

Whenever we're **SQUEEZED**, whatever comes **OUT** was already **INSIDE**.

1 PETER 2:2-3 *Like newborn babies, **crave** pure spiritual milk, **so that** by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

QUESTION: What is pure spiritual milk?

ANSWER: Anything and everything that **COMMUNICATES** and **CELEBRATES** the true grace of God.

1 PETER 2:4-8 *As you come to him, the living Stone—**rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him 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. 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.**" 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," 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.*

HERMENEUTICS 101

- The author **determines** the meaning, the reader **discovers** it.
- Bombard the text with **questions**.
- Context is **supreme**.
- Use **clear** passages to interpret **unclear** ones.

QUESTION: Why do they stumble?

1 PETER 2:8 *“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.*

ANSWER: Because they disobey the message.

1 PETER 2:8 *“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.*

QUESTION: Who was destined for what?

1 PETER 2:8 *“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.*

POSSIBLE ANSWERS:

- Anyone who disobeys is destined to stumble.
- Some are destined to disobey, which then causes them to stumble.

CLEAR PASSAGES:

- JOHN 3:16
- MATTHEW 28:19-20
- 1 TIMOTHY 2:4
- 2 PETER 3:9
- PSALM 67:2
- ISAIAH 45:22
- EZEKIEL 18:32

One evidence of God’s love for all of us is that none of us are able to escape **CONSEQUENCES**.

1 PETER 2:9 *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.*

BOTTOM LINE: If people stumble, let it be because they **DON’T** believe what Jesus did and not that they **CAN’T** believe what we do.