

*How we view things*

<b>Expensive &amp; treasured</b>	<b>Expensive &amp; not treasured</b>
<b>Inexpensive &amp; treasured</b>	<b>Inexpensive &amp; not treasured</b>

*How we view people*

<b>High rank &amp; treasured</b>	<b>High rank &amp; not treasured</b>
<b>Low rank &amp; treasured</b>	<b>Low rank &amp; not treasured</b>

## *Treasured*

- What is it like to be treasured?
- What is it like **not** to be treasured?
- **How does God view you and me today?**

## Chosen and Precious

1 Peter 2:4-10

**Brown/English:** Page 1221  
**White/Spanish:** Page 1547  
**Red/Chinese:** Page 1966





*A very brief history of God's people*

**1400 BC: Abraham's descendants become a nation**

- God's design in the book of Exodus
- A conditional promise

700 BC:

30 AD:

60 AD:

*The conditional promise*

*God's promise to His people:*

“Now **if you obey me fully** and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my **treasured possession**. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a **kingdom of priests** and a **holy nation**.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” *Exodus 19:5-6*

Yet the people did not obey fully

### *A very brief history of God's people*

1400 BC: Abraham's descendants become a nation

- God's design in the book of Exodus
- A conditional promise → they reject God

### **700 BC: God rejects the nation**

- God's words through the prophet Hosea

30 AD:

60 AD:

### *The consequences of disobedience*

[The prophet Hosea had a daughter:]

Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call her **Lo-Ruhamah** (which means "**not loved**"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them." *Hosea 1:6*

[The prophet then had a son:]

Then the Lord said, "Call him **Lo-Ammi** (which means "**not my people**"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God." *Hosea 1:9*



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**700 BC: God rejects the nation**

- God's words through the prophet Hosea
- **God also promises a day of restoration**

30 AD:

60 AD:

*The promise of grace (forgiveness)*

“In that (future) day, declares the LORD...

I will plant her for myself in the land;

I will **show my love** to the one I called

‘Not my loved one.’

I will say to those called ‘Not my people,’

**‘You are my people’;**

and they will say, ‘You are my God.’” *Hosea 2:23*

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**30 AD: God's Son (Jesus) rejected by God's people**

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30 AD: God's Son (Jesus) rejected by God's people

**60 AD: Peter writes to God's scattered people**



### *The First Letter from Peter*

- Author: Apostle Peter
  - When Jesus was arrested, Peter denied even knowing Him
- Probably writing to Gentile Christians
  - Perhaps literally exiles (away from home but not by choice)
  - At least felt like exiles because of Christian faith
- Call to faithfulness even when their Christian faith put them in conflict with society and authorities

### *1 Peter 2:4-10*

- 4: Christ: chosen & precious to God (living Stone)  
yet rejected by people
- 5: You: chosen & precious to God (living stones)  
Becoming a temple. Living as priests
- 6-8: Rejection of God's stone(s) was prophesied  
Rejection only harms those who reject God's way
- 9-10: You who believe: chosen & precious to God  
Experiencing rejection as Christ did (exiles)  
Proclaiming God's glory (not ours)

### *The conditional promise*

*God's promise to His people:*

“Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my **treasured possession**. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a **kingdom of priests** and a **holy nation**.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” *Exodus 9:5-6*

### *The promise of grace (forgiveness)*

“In that (future) day, declares the LORD...

I will plant her for myself in the land;

I will show my love to the one I called ‘Not my loved one.’

I will say to those called ‘Not my people,’ ‘You are my people’; and they will say, ‘You are my God.’” *Hosea 2:23*



### *The Big Idea*

Though once we were separated from God (by our sin)  
and we may be rejected or belittled by people  
(through injustice, prejudice, unkindness, ...)  
we who are in Christ are chosen and treasured by God  
and are honored proclaimers of His glory

### *Application*

- Rejoice!
  - God's treasured possession
    - Chosen. Treasured. Priest. Temple.
    - We are His people. He is our God.
  - Our value to God is NOT based on our value in society
  - Being rejected by people does NOT mean rejection by God → often the opposite

### *Application*

- Rejoice!
  - God's treasured possession
- Proclaim Christ's glory

...that you may declare the praises of **him** who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 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.





### *Application*

- Rejoice!
  - God's treasured possession
- Proclaim Christ's glory
  - We don't preach ourselves, but Christ and His glory
- Be holy
  - As priests of God and as His temple
  - As proclaimers of God's glory

### *The Big Idea*

Though once we were separated from God (by our sin)  
and we may be rejected or belittled by people  
(through injustice, prejudice, unkindness, ...)  
we who are in Christ are **chosen and treasured by God**  
and are **honored proclaimers of His glory**

**TODAY!**