July 12, 2026

I Peter 2:1-5

"The Priesthood Of Believers"

PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATION

V 1, Therefore, following 1:22-25, rid yourselves of five listed sins that drive wedges between believers. **Malice**, a wicked ill-will toward someone, a heinous sin. **Deceit**, a deliberate dishonesty. **Hypocrisy**, pretended piety and love. **Envy**, resentful discontent, and **slander**, backbiting lies. NONE of these qualities should feel at home or ever be present in the lives of believers. Root them out and replace them with obedience to God's Word. This calls for a decisive *break* with the past. Do not be conformed to your former evil desires, 1:14. These sins tear at the social fabric of the church. Reject them do not simply tolerate or ignore them. Ill-will destroys harmony in the fellowship.

Vv 2-3, believers, long for the Word like a newborn for milk. Peter quotes Psalm 34:8. Taste and see! Peter is really good at challenging people to reexamine their faith.

V 4, "As you come to Him," is not referring to one's initial step of believing faith; instead it refers to one's habitual coming to the Lord. An intimate communion and fellowship with the Lord. In 1:3 Jesus is our living hope, in 1:23 the living Word, and now Christ is referred to as the living Stone here in verse four today.

V 5, All believers make up a royal priesthood, see 2:9 and Hebrews 13:15, "Therefore, through him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess His name." Revelation 1:5b-6, "To Him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by His blood, and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father-to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." Peter includes his readers, do you see your name anywhere in there?

Application: A distinguishing mark of a born again Christian is a deep seated love for God's Word. Job desired the Word more than his necessary food, Job 23:12. Look at Psalm one too.

Pure is such a pleasant and defining word. When you are on the mission field a glass of pure, fresh anything brings delight. Believers must make a commitment to regular nourishment from God's Word. This is why the person who stands in the pulpit must not put out junk food on a weekly basis but instead the genuine spiritual food of the Word. Peter is calling for a need of discontent among believers to remain malnourished regarding the truths of God's Word.