AS WE SUFFER, HOW CAN WE KEEP FROM BEING DISCOURAGED? REMEMBERING WHAT GOD IS DOING WITH IN US THROUGH CHRIST 1Peter 2:4-6

- I. <u>WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED WHEN WE SEE WHAT GOD IS DOING IN US THROUGH CHRIST:</u> As we come to Him through His Word, we are being built up as a spiritual temple to offer as holy priests spiritual sacrifices to God (4-6)
 - A. WHAT GOD IS DOING: As we come to the Living Stone, rejected by men, but chosen and precious in God's sight, we as living stones are being built up as a spiritual house (4-5a)
 - 1. Who do we come to? Jesus Christ (4)
 - a) He is like a living stone (4)
 - b) He was rejected by men (4)
 - c) He is choice and precious in God's sight (4)
 - 2. As we come to Him, we are being built up as a as a spiritual house (4-5)
 - a) We are living stones, who come to Him though His Word (2:2,2:4)
 - b) The result is we are being built up into a spiritual house (2:5)
 - B. WHY GOD IS BUILDING US UP AS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE: We are being built up for a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ (5b-6)

NEXT WEEK

- II. <u>WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED WHEN WE SEE HOW GOD VALUES US BECAUSE</u> <u>OF PRECIOUS CHRIST</u> (7-10)
 - **A.** Precious Christ is for us who believe (7a)
 - **B.** The Cornerstone will be the eternal doom for those who do not believe (7b-8)
 - **C.** We believers are the chosen people and valued possession of God, destined to proclaim His excellences, because of His great mercy (9-10)