



# Word Study on "Cornerstone"

**Cornerstone** – literally a stone that forms the base of a corner of a building, joining two walls, figuratively an important quality or feature on which a particular thing depends or is based

## Scripture Word Study: **Cornerstone**

Please read the following passages and answer the associated questions.

(1) Ps 118:1-4 | 1 Chron 16:34 How long does the Lord's lovingkindness last? \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Ps 118:5-9 | Hebrews 13:6 If God is on our side, who do we have to fear? \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Ps 118:10-14 | Ex 15:2 | Is 12:2 What 3 things is the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Ps 118:15-16 | Luke 1:51 What does God do with his right arm? \_\_\_\_\_

(5) Ps 118:17-18 | 1 Corinthians 11:32 Why does the Lord discipline us? \_\_\_\_\_

(6) Ps 118:19-21 | Revelation 22:14 Who enters? \_\_\_\_\_

(7) Ps 118:22-23 | Mark 12:10-11 What happened to the rejected stone? \_\_\_\_\_

(8) Ps 118:24 | Philippians 4:4 What are we to do? \_\_\_\_\_

(9) Ps 118:25 | What is being requested? \_\_\_\_\_

(10) Ps 118:26 | John 12:13 Who were they greeting with this quote this? \_\_\_\_\_

(11) Ps 118:27-29 | Jeremiah 33:11 How long does the lovingkindness of the Lord last? \_\_\_\_\_

(12) *Think & Pray* Psalm 118:22-23 is quoted five times in the New Testament – Matt 21:42; Mark 12:10-11; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11; and 1 Pet 2:7 and alluded to several more times, perhaps most clearly in Ephesians 2:20. In each of these cases, how is the quote from Psalms being applied?

(a) Matt 21:42; Mark 12:10-11 & Luke 20:17 (These are parallel passages.) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Acts 4:11 Peter \_\_\_\_\_

(c) 1 Pet 2:7- \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Ephesians 2:20 \_\_\_\_\_

(e) Was Ps 118:22-23 interpreted and applied the same way in each case? What does this teach us about how to read and understand God's word? \_\_\_\_\_

----- "CORNERSTONE" POSSIBLE ANSWERS -----

Scripture Word Study: **Cornerstone**

- (1) Ps 118:1-4 | 1 Chron 16:34 How long does the Lord's lovingkindness last? Forever (See 13 below)
- (2) Ps 118:5-9 | Hebrews 13:6 If God is on our side, who do we have to fear? No one (See 14 below)
- (3) Ps 118:10-14 | Ex 15:2 | Is 12:2 What 3 things is the Lord? Strength, song & salvation (See 15 below)
- (4) Ps 118:15-16 | Luke 1:51 What does God do with his right arm? Whatever He wants (See 16 below)
- (5) Ps 118:17-18 | 1 Corinthians 11:32 Why does the Lord discipline us? To save us (See 17 below)
- (6) Ps 118:19-21 | Revelation 22:14 Who enters? The righteous (See 18 below)
- (7) Ps 118:22-23 | Mark 12:10-11 What happened to the rejected stone? It became the corner stone
- (8) Ps 118:24 | Philippians 4:4 What are we to do? Rejoice! (See 19 below)
- (9) Ps 118:25 | What is being requested? Prosperity
- (10) Ps 118:26 | John 12:13 Who were they greeting with this quote this? Jesus Christ (See 20 below)
- (11) Ps 118:27-29 | Jeremiah 33:11 How long does the lovingkindness of the Lord last? Forever
- (12) Psalm 118:22-23 is quoted five times in the New Testament – Matt 21:42; Mark 12:10-11; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11; and 1 Pet 2:7 and alluded to several more times, perhaps most clearly in Ephesians 2:20. Was Ps 118:22-23 interpreted and applied the same way in each case? What does this teach us about how to read and understand God's word?
  - (a) Matt 21:42; Mark 12:10-11 and Luke 20:17 are all the same story. At the close of the parable of the vineyard workers, Jesus is admonishing the chief priest and elders that their rejection of Him will end in disaster for them. They will lose their position and be scattered because they did not accept Him.
  - (b) In Acts 4:11 Peter, "filled with the Holy Spirit," reminds these same people of their coming doom because of their rejection of Jesus Christ, the chief cornerstone. They do not repent.
  - (c) 1 Pet 2:7-8 also says that Jesus Christ is the cornerstone, and alludes to the doom of those who reject Him.
  - (d) Ephesians 2:20 also says that Jesus Christ is the cornerstone, but focuses instead on the positive outcome of those who do accept Him as Lord and Savior.
  - (e) Ps 118:22-23 is being applied in very similar ways in all these passages. Are you standing on the Rock of Salvation? How do you know?

**For further thought:**

- (13) Ps 118:1-4, 27-29 Are these two passages the same idea? So?
- (14) Ps 118:5-9 | John 14:27 Is God on your side? What makes you afraid? Why?
- (15) Ps 118:10-14 | Exodus 15:2 | Isaiah 12:2 Is this speaking to the Trinitarian nature of God? Why or why not?
- (16) Ps 118:15-16 | Luke 1:51 Why do we need to be reminded of God's omnipotence?
- (17) Ps 118:17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:32; 2 Corinthians 6:9 How much has God disciplined you?
- (18) Ps 118:19-21 | Revelation 22:14 Are you going to enter? How do you know?
- (19) Ps 118:24 | Philippians 4:4 How often and how much do you rejoice? Why?
- (20) Ps 118:25-26 | John 12:13 Could the enthusiasm for greeting Him have had something to do with expectations that Ps 118:25 was about to be answered positively? So what?
- (21) Review the use of the term "cornerstone" in these verses: Job 38:6; Isaiah 19:13; Isaiah 28:16; Jeremiah 51:26; and Zechariah 10:4
- (22) A related word to "cornerstone", "foundation" also makes a good study. "Foundation" appears over seventy times in the Bible. We recommend you find these in an exhaustive concordance and study them starting with Isaiah 33:6.