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From Rejection to Rejoicing: The Significance of the Cornerstone

A Commentary by Jason Curry



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I continue to remain fascinated by the presence of cornerstones that are placed at the foundations of buildings throughout the nation. Aside from the obvious beauty and recognized strength of these magnificent rocks, these cornerstones are extremely important because they provide the reader with the exact date of the building's construction. The cornerstone is such an important part of the structure and history of the building that it is difficult to believe that this physical rock could have been initially rejected by the builders of the building. The bible often makes reference to Jesus as the cornerstone of the Christian faith (Matthew 21:42, Acts 4:11, Mark 12:10 and 1 Peter 2:7); however, the biblical record also states that Jesus was rejected by many people in his day. Some people rejected his teachings, while others rejected his physical presence and ultimately contributed to his death on the

cross. However, it is through his death that you and I have the opportunity to receive eternal life. Yes, through Jesus' rejection we now have the opportunity to rejoice about the great things (e.g., many miracles) that God has done in lives.

I don't know of anyone who enjoys being rejected; however, rejection, in our personal or professional circles, seems to be a consistent and challenging experience for everyone. We are sometimes rejected by employers who limit our potential, colleagues who criticize and condemn, family members who sometimes ignore us, siblings who may use us, and possibly our children who may need us but sometimes take us for granted. History tells us that Michael Jordan was rejected by his high school basketball coach, Oprah Winfrey was rejected by her biological father, and Socrates was rejected by those in power during his day. However, the

lives of these famous people remind us that rejection doesn't have to lead to defeat and despair. It is often a necessary step that leads to a life of rejoicing. The life and ministry of Jesus Christ reminds us that the act of being rejected by the world because we've demonstrated love, embraced forgiveness and promoted peace will ultimately lead us to a life of Christian joy, inner peace and eternal salvation through Jesus Christ. We will always experience rejection from people, but, it is important to know that we will never be rejected by God. Through God, the great Architect of the Christian faith, and through Jesus, the great cornerstone of our Christian experience, we have the opportunity to build and rebuild our lives as well as the lives of people around us. Let us find strength in the Rock of our Salvation (Psalm 62:2) so that we may continue with the work of kingdom building for our Lord.