

Precious Jesus

“To Whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious” (1 Peter 2:4). “Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious” (1 Peter 2:6). “Unto you therefore which believe He is precious” (1 Peter 2:7).

At fifty-three years of age, Bill Gates is considered to be the wealthiest person in the world. Gates placed first in the annual ranking of the world’s wealthiest people, compiled and published by *Forbes* magazine on March 11, 2009. An American business magnate, philanthropist, and chairman of Microsoft, the software company he co-founded, Mr. Gates’ net worth was listed at forty billion dollars.

Two other well-known family names emerged on the special list. At seventy-eight, Warren Buffett, another United States citizen and resident, was listed as the second wealthiest individual in the world with a net worth of thirty-seven billion. Also, as should be expected, four members of the Walton family, the network behind *Wal-Mart*, were listed with a net worth of nearly eighteen billion each.

While these and others might be called people of great worth, there is One Who is infinitely of greater worth. That person, of course, is the Lord Jesus Christ. His value is of great significance in every realm of spiritual experience. In Simon Peter’s third usage of the word “precious,” He refers to Jesus from three different vantage points. Let’s look at these three references and learn more about our “Precious Jesus.”

The Lord Jesus is precious in the engagements of the Father! The Savior is set forth as the “chosen of God” (2:4), and the “elect” of God (2:6). All the purposes of the Godhead are gathered around God the Son. Jesus is the centerpiece that turns the wheel of the divine plan. Those who are rebels against God despise Him; those who are mere religionists pass over Him. But He is the delight of the Father’s heart.

The Lord Jesus is precious in the efficiency of the foundation! The only way for the “spiritual house” to stand, the only way for the stones in the building to hold together, is for Jesus, the “living Stone” (2:4), to be “the Chief Corner Stone” (2:6), or the “Head of the corner” (2:7). Although our Lord is not acceptable in the building processes of men, He is the foundation of the divine work in Zion.

The Lord Jesus is precious in the eyes of the family! In the remaining phrases of this verse and the next one, it is clear that the One Who is precious to the family of faith is “a stone of stumbling” and “a rock of offense” to the “disobedient,” (2:7, 8). He is only “Precious Jesus” to those who genuinely “believe,” to those who trust Him for salvation. Is He precious to you, dear friend? If not, may God grant you faith to believe on His Son.