

Jesus, the Capstone

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Psalm 118:22.

B. Our concept of Jesus is too small.

C. Peter in one of his speeches in Acts cites Psalm 118 in reference to Christ as the stone that the builders rejected.

II. Jesus' rejection.

A. It started from his very birth.

B. Simeon prophesied Jesus' rejection and Mary's suffering over it.

III. The responsibility of the rejection.

A. The Romans were the ones that crucified Jesus carrying out orders to do so from Pilate. Pilate's orders came from the influence of the priests. The priests' capture of Jesus was enabled by Judas. The Devil initiated this work in Judas. (John 13)

B. Yet the final cause of Jesus' death was God. Jesus gave Himself out of obedience to the Father. God was in the world reconciling men to Himself in Christ Jesus. (John 3:16)

IV. The results of the rejection.

A. Through Jesus' rejection, God reversed the decision of human beings. Jesus became the apex, the focal point, of what God was doing in the world.

B. The day will come when everyone will see the exaltation of Christ. The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone. Jesus, the Lamb of God who was slain has become the focal point of all human history. (Philippians 2)

V. Conclusion.

A. When Christ is the capstone in your life, everything comes together.

B. There ought to be nothing on earth that we desire equally with Christ. (Psalm 77:25)

Application questions

1. Why is it important to know that the final responsibility of Christ's rejection was God?

2. How is it that this rejection was not final? What was its provision?

3. What place does Christ take in your daily life - is He the capstone? Spend some time in self reflection and write out a prayer to Christ exulting Him.
