The cornerstone described in 1 Peter 2:6 creates a powerful image. The “head of the corner” was a massive stone set, not in the foundation, but in the upper corner of a building to bind the walls firmly together. The huge stone would have been useless in other positions in the building. It lay rejected in the building yard while the walls were being built. Its size would have made it a stumbling block to the builders as long as it lay on the ground unused. But once in place, it became the capstone on which all else in the building depended.

Christ is too great to be neglected or rejected. For those who follow Him, He is the capstone that makes all life’s efforts cohere and have lasting meaning. But for those who stumble over and reject Him, life will lack purpose and meaning. There will be judgment in the life to come.

The first mark of a genuine disciple is the recognition of the gift of salvation graciously offered in Christ. Christian stewardship is marked by the confession that all we are and all we have has been received from God and therefore belongs to God.