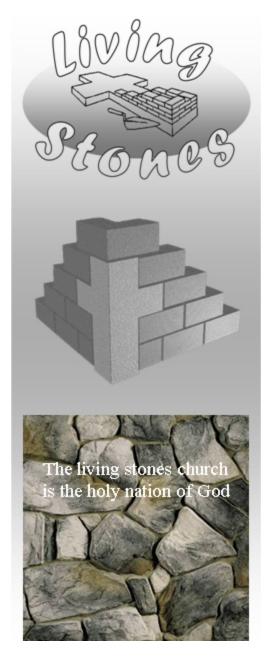
#429 Time Magazine, December 9, 1991 – "One Nation Under God" is the counterfeit of the 1 Peter 2:9 Holy Nation of God, part 1

2-month date change. We are turning to the 2-month date change again. This time the correlation is December 9 (1991) = February 9 = 2:9, and the verse we are specifically referring to is 1 Peter 2:9. The subject matter is "One Nation Under God."

First, however, let's look at the larger passage of 1 Peter 2:1-12. This passage is explaining the Living Stone, Jesus Christ, and the 'living stones' spiritual House of God – the Body of Christ.

- 1 Peter 2:1-12 (KJV) Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,
- 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:
- 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.
- 4 To whom coming, as unto <u>A LIVING STONE</u>, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,
- 5 Ye also, as lively stones [living stones], are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
- 6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, <u>I lay in Sion A CHIEF CORNER STONE</u>, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
- 7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
- 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.
- 9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, AN HOLY NATION, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now
- 10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
- 11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul:
- 12 Having your conversation honest among the



Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Key Understanding: Jesus Christ is the Living Stone – the Chief Cornerstone of the temple of the 'living stones' spiritual House of God. The spiritual House of God in the church age is also "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, AN HOLY NATION, a peculiar people," as is seen in 1 Peter 2:9.

Just as Israel was called to be "a holy nation" and God's chosen people in the Old Testament (Exodus 19:5-6), so in the New Testament the true believers – the Body of Christ – are designated as the genuine royal priesthood and "holy nation" of the Lord.

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