

A Good Foundation

Many lessons from history show that at any time, any where, calamity can strike... and tragedy occurs. Whether it be acts of war, acts of terrorism, or even personal calamity... there will be casualties for those who are not ready in the face of the enemy. As a Christian soldier, you must ask yourself is your **foundation** on rock or sand? In the face of life's challenges, are you ready to stand?

Matt 7:24-27 (KJV)

- 24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:
25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.
26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:
27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

God has provided us with the way to build a **foundation** that is sure... one that is built on Christ Jesus. It's up to the Christian to prepare for good and bad times... as Paul said in Philippians 4:11-13(KJV):

- 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.
12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

How are you to spiritually build your foundation so you may stand sure no matter what happens in your journey through life? Is it your Wisdom, Might, or Money?

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (KJV)

- 23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:
24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (KJV)

- 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;
19 **Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.**

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(adapted from "This We Believe" from the Basis of the Open Bible Trust)

Evangelical Foundation

1. The Deity of Christ
2. Understand the all-sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice

Fundamental Foundation

1. The inspired Bible
2. We are called unto good works
3. Faith comes by hearing the word of God
4. Scripture is the final authority

Dispensational Foundation

1. Handling the word of God accurately
2. Understanding how God deals with man over the ages
3. Know your calling

Foundation

Luke 6:47-49 (KJV)

- 47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like:
- 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the **foundation** on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.
- 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a **foundation** built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

1 Cor 3:10-11 (KJV)

- 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the **foundation**, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
- 11 For other **foundation** can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Eph 2:19-22 (KJV)

- 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
- 20 And are built upon the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:
- 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

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18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;
19 Laying up in store for themselves a good **foundation** against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

2 Tim 2:16-19 (KJV)

- 16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.
17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;
18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.
19 Nevertheless the **foundation** of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

When you consider your foundation in Christ, isn't it exciting to know God laid that foundation before the foundation of the world!

In the study on "The Hope of the Church of the One Body" we looked at the phrase "foundation of the world". In doing so we discovered that this phrase occurs ten times in scripture. Seven of them are used with the words "from or since the foundation of the world". We found that all seven of these references pertain to Israel and the calling they have in Abraham.

There are three occurrences where these words appear together with a different time emphasis when it says "before the foundation of the world". In these three passages we learn about the love of Christ in heavenly places.

In John 17 we find the Lord praying in the Garden of Gethsemane to God and Jesus speaks of the love the God had for him before the foundation of the world.

John 17:22-24 (KJV)

- 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:
23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.
24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me **before the foundation of the world.**

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Next, in 1 Peter we find a description of Jesus and his blood being foreordained before the foundation of the world as a lamb without blemish or spot.

1 Peter 1:18-20 (KJV)

- 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
- 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
- 20 Who verily was foreordained **before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

And finally, in Ephesians 1 we see that he has chosen us (that “us” applies to the church of the one body) before the foundation of the world. Further, we see we receive the same love that Christ receives and are holy and without blame (being the same words that were used to describe the precious blood of Christ being a lamb with blemish or spot).

Ephesians 1:3-4 (KJV)

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ**:
- 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Ephesians 2:4-10 (KJV)

- 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
- 5 Even when we were dead in sins, **hath quickened us together with Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;)
- 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:
- 7 That in the ages to come he might shew **the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus**.
- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- 10 For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus** unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 3:9-21 (KJV)

- 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
- 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,
- 11 **According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord**:
- 12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

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- 13 Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.
- 14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
- 16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
- 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
- 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
- 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.**
- 20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
- 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (KJV)

- 1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;
- 2 And walk in love, **as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.**

The love we have from Christ is in Heavenly Places and we are there with him right now! Isn't it nice to know you are loved (Eph 3:17-19)! As a Christian, your foundation is in Christ and He sits in the heavenlies far above all and serves as the one mediator between God and man.

1 Tim 2:5 (KJV)

- 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

2 Tim 3:14-17(KJV)

- 14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;
- 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
- 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.