

“Can God Build Upon You?”
Wednesday, November 11, 2020

- Is your life a stable foundation on which God can build His Kingdom?
- Is your commitment to your God, your brothers and sisters solid enough to be a building block for the Lord?

I. We are all “building blocks” for the Lord. (I Peter 2:4-5)

1 Peter 2:4-5 (NLT)

4 You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God’s temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

5 And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What’s more, you are his holy priests.[a] Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.

A. Notice the “context” of this statement!

1. Lay aside the things of the old sin nature/ the world. (verse 1-3)

I Peter 2:1-3

1 So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you have had a taste of the Lord’s kindness.

2. Our “purpose” is to proclaim the Lord’s praises to the world. (verse 9)

I Peter 2:9

9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

3. To show the world that they too can come "from" where we have "come from". (verse 10)

I Peter 2:10

"Once you had no identity as a people;
now you are God's people.
Once you received no mercy;
now you have received God's mercy."

4. The only way to accomplish this is for us to "come out" and act different/separate from the world. (verse 11-12)

I Peter 2:11-12

11 Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. 12 Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

- B. Your "stability" and "weight bearing" abilities is in direct proportion to your separation from the world!

- II. God IS building His Church! The question is our involvement. (Matt. 16:13-19)

Matthew 16:13-19 (NLT)

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

14 “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”

15 Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

17 Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you.

You did not learn this from any human being.

18 Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

19 And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.”

A. According to this passage, what is God building His Church upon?

1. Is it Peter?
2. Is it the disciples?
3. Is the Church of Jesus Christ built upon the shaky foundations of 12 men?

B. The Church is built upon the “revelation” of who Jesus is! (verse 16-17)

1. Wasn’t revealed by flesh and blood
2. It was taught academically
3. Peter didn’t learn it by being around Jesus in the flesh! (WOW)
4. This is “literally” the meaning of the Greek word here!

C. Jesus said, “I will build...”

1. The Greek word, construct, confirm and edify.
2. All this on revelation!

III. The depth of our “involvement” is based on this “revelation” not simply a “head knowledge” of my faith! (I Cor. 2:1-14)

1 Corinthians 2:1-14 (NLT)

1 When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. 2 For I decided that while I was with you I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. 3 I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. 4 And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. 5 I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God. 6 Yet when I am among mature believers, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world or to the rulers of this world, who are soon forgotten. 7 No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. 8 But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord. 9 That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him." 10 But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. 11 No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. 12 And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. 13 When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak

words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths.¹⁴ But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means.

- A. This new life in Christ is supposed to be a “supernatural” life. (verses 1-5)
- B. This “supernatural life” is grasped or learned “in the spirit” (6-10)
- C. We MUST develop a “spiritual discernment”. (11-14)
 - 1. “Disarmed” – anakrino – It means: to scrutinize, investigate, interrogate or determine.
 - 2. Its root means “repetition”.
 - 3. “Spiritually” – Pneumatikos – It means: divine, non-physical or supernatural.
 - 4. When you put it together it says that we receive the things from the Spirit of God through “divine-repetitious – investigations!
- D. Some truths of life ONLY come this way.