

Foundations pt1 – A Solid Word Revelation of God

Dr. John Carmichael

[Heb 6:1-3 NASB95] 1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do, if God permits.

- Marc Weinberg, WDRB meteorologist, talked about how proper roof attachment can cause a house to withstand an F3 tornado.
- The writer of Hebrews (Paul? A woman?) addressed the need to progress in their understanding of God and basic teachings. They were rebuked for still needing “milk and not solid food.” (Heb. 5:12-14)
- The writer is setting up the stage for them to endure the falling way by setting up a foundation. Elementary (Gr: beginning or at first) teachings are not left, in the sense of forsaken. They are the starting point for any other teachings.

What do we need to understand about the foundation?

Here are three important aspects of building a foundation.

I. What is the foundation?

- a. Jesus and His teachings are the foundation.
- b. [1Co 3:11 NASB95] 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- c. [Mat 7:24-29 NASB95] 24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 "And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and [yet] it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. 26 "Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell and great was its fall." 28 When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; 29 for He was teaching them as [one] having authority, and not as their scribes.
- d. [Eph 2:20 NASB95] 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner [stone,]
- e. Our foundation is Jesus and His teachings and that of His first apostles and prophets.

II. What are the components of the foundation?

- a. Revelation:
 - i. General
 1. Creation – [Rom 1:18-20 NASB95] 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.
 2. Conscience – [Rom 2:14-16 NASB95] 14 For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, 15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, 16 on the day when,

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according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

- ii. Specific
 1. The Bible. It is the Word of God.
 2. [2Ti 3:16-17 NASB95] 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
 3. Inspiration: Verbal plenary: own vocabulary under divine direction. Divine/Human.
 4. Authority: God's expressed will to us. Divine right to define what we believe and how we conduct ourselves.
- b. Elementary teachings
 - i. Repentance from dead works.
 - ii. Faith toward God.
 - iii. Instructions about washings/baptisms.
 - iv. Laying on of hands.
 - v. Resurrection of the dead.
 - vi. Eternal judgment.
- c. Specifically, Jesus is Savior, Healer, Spirit Baptizer, and Soon Coming King.

III. How is the foundation laid?

- a. V. 3 is interesting. There is an obvious relationship between God, the teacher, and the people. The teacher has to teach with respect to the ability of the people to learn. The people have to be willing to grow. The Holy Spirit is the One who turns the teaching and preaching into revelation.
 - b. [2Ti 2:24-26 NASB95] 24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses [and escape] from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.
 - c. Three partners of foundation building:
 - i. A teachable person.
 - ii. A qualified teacher.
 - iii. A dependence upon the Holy Spirit.
 - d. Be willing to be teachable. Learn from qualified teachers. Depend upon the Holy Spirit.
- **God wants a foundation built in our lives that will allow us to be protected and prosper that comes from being founded upon Jesus and His teachings, based upon His solid revelation of God from His Word as we, with a teachable heart, work the Holy Spirit and qualified teachers.**