

Lesson 2

Why We Need A Foundation



1. DOES IT MATTER WHAT KIND OF FOUNDATION WE LAY IN OUR LIVES?

Yes. If we built a house upon a weak foundation, with sufficient time and the right circumstances, it will fall. Spiritually, if we lay carefully the foundation of Jesus Christ in our lives, we can withstand any storm we may encounter and come through victoriously. [Read Matthew 7:24-27.]

2. WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION OF JESUS CHRIST?

The foundation of Jesus Christ is made up of seven “stones” or principles (doctrine) concerning the person of Jesus Christ. The DOCTRINE OF CHRIST SPEAKS OF WHAT HE HAS DONE AND WHAT HE WILL DO FOR US. We must lay a foundation of Jesus Christ by applying this doctrine in our lives.

Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS, and of FAITH TOWARD GOD, OF THE DOCTRINE OF baptisms, of LAYING ON OF HANDS, and of RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD, and of ETERNAL JUDGMENT. And this will we do, if God permit (Hebrews 6:1-3).

FOR FURTHER STUDY: Read Ephesians 2:19-22

3. DOES IT MATTER WHETHER OR NOT A CHURCH TEACHES THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST?

Yes. The rock or foundation Jesus was speaking of in Matthew 16:18 was Himself. If we try to build a church on any other principles than that which is given to us in the Doctrine of Christ, we and our “church” will fall. A church that truly has Jesus Christ as its foundation has come on Covenant grounds with God and is therefore called a New Covenant church.

[Read I Corinthians 3:10-15 and II John 9-11]

4. WHAT IS OUR AUTHORITY FOR TAKING SUCH A STRONG STAND ON THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST?

We do not teach anything as sound doctrine unless we have full Biblical witness as to its validity. Paul states, “...in the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established” (II Corinthians 13:1). The formula for judging sound doctrine is three-fold:

- (1) “Is it mentioned in the Old Testament?”
- (2) “Is it found in the words of Jesus?”
- (3) “Is it found through the writings of the Apostles and Prophets in the New Testament?”

The Doctrine of Christ has this complete Biblical witness.

5. WHAT FINAL PURPOSE DO WE HAVE IN MIND IN TEACHING THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST?

- A. Paul said in every church where he had apostolic authority he taught the SAME THING. His purpose for that was to produce UNITY in the Body of Christ. A church of ONE ACCORD and ONE MIND can be used mightily by the Lord. [Read I Corinthians 4:17 and Ephesians 4:11-13].

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment (I Corinthians 1:10).

B. We know from the words of Jesus the Church will be ONE before he comes again. Jesus prayed in John 17:20-23, that the world may know (recognize) this unity.