

The Spiritual House is God's and Jesus is the Foundation and Corner Stone.

Acts 4:10 - 12 *“Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. (11) This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. (12) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”*

We see Peter and John Before the Council and Peter is speaking here. Peter said to this Jewish counsel This man Jesus whom you crucified is not dead, He has risen from the dead is the Chief Corner Stone of God's spiritual house and is the foundation of it. And there is no salvation outside of Him. Peter went on to say that there is not salvation under any other name, whether it be works, baptism, church membership, or any other source that can be imagined, only in Jesus Christ.

God's Spiritual house which is the church was founded on Jesus Christ, He is the unmovable rock that holds the churches together. Peter, who Jesus compared to himself, who so many wrongly believe is the foundation of the church is only a small pebble compared to Jesus Christ.

God's spiritual house was Started by Jesus and continues through the Sovereign hand of God. God does everything out of His Sovereign Will and His choosing. **Eph 1:11** *“In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:”*

We are going to look inside of God's Spiritual House on this earth called The Church that was founded by, though, and on Jesus Christ.

A. First, let us look at the Stone & foundation.

1. **Matthew 16:18** *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

- a. Jesus Christ is the “petra” which is “a (mass of) rock” large enough, strong enough, and massive enough that it can be a solid foundation and strong enough foundation to last till Jesus returned.
- b. Peter is a “Petros” just a (piece of) rock, a piece of the massive rock that is the building up on the “petra” foundation of Jesus.

2. This superstructure called the Churches has a solid foundation and a solid Corner Stone, and Jesus is both. Acts 4:11 said, *“This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.”*
 3. This is quoted as prophecy in **Psalms 118:22** *“The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.”* The Lord continued His revelation in verse 23 *“This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.”* – This is God’s spiritual house, and no one else.
 4. **1 Corinthians 12:18, 28** *“But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. (28) And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.”*
 5. These men of the counsel ignorantly failed to understand about whom they were speaking. **Matthew 21:42** *“Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?”* – buildings built on men are simply cheap, thrown together, and built on sand.
 6. These Jews and this world has been warned, **Isaiah 28:16** *“Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.”*
 7. And in **Romans 9:33** *“As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.”*
 8. Paul wrote this to the church at Ephesus, **Ephesians 2:18-22** *“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”*
- B. The builder of the building or spiritual house.
1. God is the builder of all things; everything begins with God. **1 Corinthians 3:9 – 11** *“For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's*

building. (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.

2. Our house must be built on the Rock.
 - a. Not a pebble, a “Petros”, but the Massive Rock, the “Petra”.
 - b. Jesus Christ is the Rock; He is the foundation of the church which is the Superstructure of the churches. He (Jesus) is the foundation that God has laid as the foundation.
 - c. Many so-called churches are built on a man, a religious system, not on the foundation of Jesus Christ. They call it Protestantism and that the religionist system is Catholicism.
 - d. Jews did not build on the foundation, in fact they crucified the foundation because of self-righteousness, traditions, and works, which all these non-church churches are built on.
3. Building on the True Foundation is a labor of love.
 - a. **1 Thessalonians 1:3 - 4** “*Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; (4) Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.*”
 - b. Our election of God goes beyond our salvation, while it starts with salvation it also includes our works of righteousness. **Ephesians 2:10** “*For we are his workmanship, **created** in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*” – This means, walking in them is an ordained command not an option. We were elected to do so and ordained to do so.
 - c. Moses wrote, **Deuteronomy 5:32 - 33** “*Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. (33) Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.*”
 - d. It is our duty as believers to walk in the will of God for us, **Jude 1:17 - 21** “*But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our*

Lord Jesus Christ; (18) How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. (19) These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. (20) But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, (21) Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

- e. God’s ordained will, will not fail, but some that God simply commands will fail. Isn’t it awful that Christians that God loved, Who sacrificed His own Son, elected to pardon our transgressions, give us a sonship, and give us the gift of eternal life, must be held in place as a Christian and church member to complete God’s ordained Will.

C. God’s people are the Spiritual house of God.

- 1. **Ephesians 2:19 - 22** *“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.”*
 - a. The house, or the church, is a spiritual house, not an actual building.
 - b. We as members are not strangers but fellow citizens. This means There are no barriers between church members, no nationality, not race, no nothing. We are as one working together to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be a Pillar and Ground of Truth.
 - c. We are *“built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”* The Apostles and prophets were the first stones laid in the Spiritual House of Jesus Christ. We are added building blocks in God building His superstructure called the church.
 - d. *“In whom all the building fitly framed together”* Brother Oscar Mink wrote *“All the Building Fitly Framed”, May Be Applied To the Church Institutionally, But It More Appropriately Fits The Local Church.”* = I agree. The Greek words here mean, *“to render close jointed together, that is,*

organize compactly:” Organized by God who put every stone as it pleased Him. **1 Corinthians 12:18** “*But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.*” – by His own Sovereign Will and Pleasure.

2. **1 Peter 2:1 – 6** “*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 a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, (5) Ye also, as lively 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, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.*”
 - a. V. 5 “*Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*” The words “lively stones” means living stone that are alive, growing, and producing in the spiritual house of God.
 - b. **2 Corinthians 6:16** “*And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*” – We are living stones of God, built together but God’s own hand of power. God not only dwells with us but in us, and He is never leaving.
3. We are the house of God, His spiritual house, elected and built by Him on Jesus Christ. We live, move, and exist only by His grace and power. We are sustained by Him, but we are builders with the Lord. God gives the increase, and He is our buckler. Let us continue to always remember in these days, in the Last Days that we are God’s.