



Title/Date: 9/24/23 "7 Foundations of a Biblical Church" Pt. 3

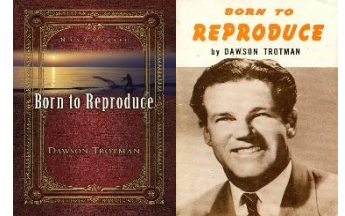
(The blueprint of Scripture for building God-honoring churches)

5 Foundational Passages for the Launch of TBC Calvert: 1 Cor. 3:4-15, Col. 1:9-18, Romans 3:20-26, 10:9-17, Eph. 4:1-16, 2 Tim. 3:12-4:5

**Romans 3:20-26** <sup>20</sup> ...by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Romans 10:9-17** <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

<sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." <sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" <sup>16</sup> However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.



I. Introduction:

Faithful to the Great Commission, Experts on the Gospel, Spiritual Multiplication/Reproduction

II. Outline: 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

1. The Foundation of God's G (Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God alone) (1 Cor. 3:4-15, Rom. 11:36) Ephesians 1:3-6
2. The Foundation of God's S (Jesus our Cornerstone–100% Deity & Humanity)(Colossians 1:13-18, 1 Peter 2:2-7) Ephesians 1:7-12
3. The Foundation of God's S (Prayer – Power, Perspective, Perseverance) (Colossians 1:9-12, 4:2) Ephesians 1:13-14
4. The Foundation of God's G (The Good News of Jesus Life, Death, & Resurrection = Righteousness, Forgiveness, & Eternal Life IF one is believing in Jesus through repentance, faith, and Lordship) (Acts 2:22-32, Romans 3:20-26, Mt. 6:33, Mark 1:15, Luke 24:47, John 3:16) Ephesians 2:8-10
5. The Foundation of God's W (The Bible/Canon, revelation from God to measure truth from error, right from wrong, good from evil) (2 Timothy 3:10-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12, Romans 15:4, John 8:32, 17:17) Ephesians 2:19-22, 3:1-5
6. The Foundation of God's C (The Body & Bride of Christ – the pillar/support of the truth) (Acts 2:42-47, Eph. 1:22-23, 3:10-11, 3:21, 4:1-16, 5:23-32) Eph. 4:1-16
7. The Foundation of God's S (Preaching to walk God's Way – Holy Living) (1 Timothy 4:12-13, 5:20, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Titus 2:15) Eph. 4:17-6:24

III: The 5 P's of the Gospel

Blanks: Glory, Word, Church, Shepherd

**God's Plan – R** (Love, Know, Serve, Worship God Forever) Love - Mt.22:37, Know - John 17:3, Abide – John 14:17-23, 15:4-10, Adopt - Rom.8:15-23, Gal.4:5-7, Eph.1:5, Dwell/Walk with - 2 Cor.6:16/Lev.26:12, Covenant/I their God, they my people - Heb.8:10/Jer. 31:33, Rev.21:3/Ezek.36:28,37:27

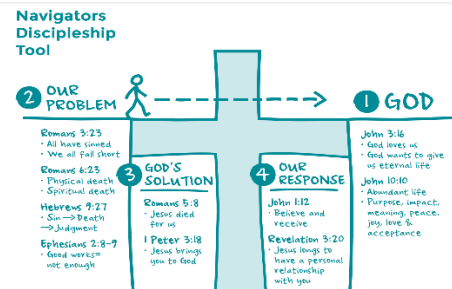
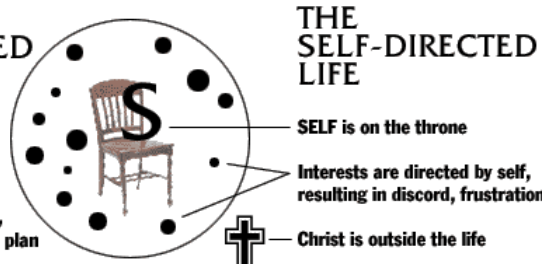
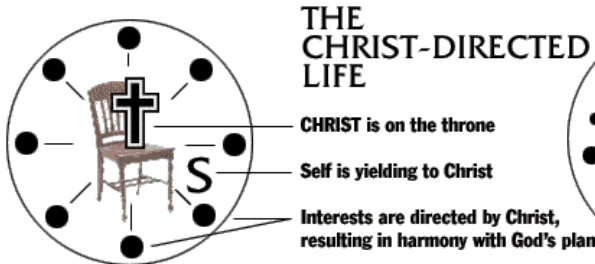
**Man's Problem – S** (Curse, Death, Hell/Eternal Separation) Deception/Lie – Gen. 3, Rebellion – Dt. 9:7,23, Ps. 5:10, 78:8, 56, 107:11, Sin/miss the mark - Rom. 3:9-20, 23, 6:23, Curse - Gal. 3:10-22, Unclean - Prov. 20:9, Iniquities/guilt - Is. 59:2, Unrighteous - Ecc. 7:20, Trespasses – Eph. 2:1, deceitful/wicked/evil/depraved mind – Gen. 6:5, Prov. 6:16-19, Rom. 1:28-32, Prov. 24:20, Is. 13:11, Jer. 13:10, 17:9, Ps. 7:9, Ez. 18:23, 33:11

**God's Provision – J** (Perfect Life, Sacrificial Death, Victorious Resurrection) Salvation a gift of God's grace - John 3:15-18, Rom. 5:8-15, 6:23b, Eph. 2:8, Justification/Redemption/Propitiation - Romans 3:20-26, Regeneration/spiritual rebirth/born again - Titus 3:4-7, John 3:3, Righteousness from God - Philippians 3:8-11, Good news – Christ Died for our sins, raised accord. Scriptures - 1 Cor. 15:1-4, Forgiveness of our trespasses by rich/lavish grace - Eph. 1:7-12, Reconciled by blood, Rescued from kingdom of darkness/transferred to Jesus' Kingdom - Colossians 1:13-23, Made Alive/forgiven ALL transgression - 2:13-15, entered tabernacle in heaven for us by His own blood and obtained eternal redemption/make perfect those being sanctified - Heb. 9:11-28, 10:14, our substitute/bore our sins in His own body on the cross - 1 Peter 2:24, reconciled us to God – 1 Peter 3:18, 2 Cor. 5:15-21, was pierced for our transgressions/crushed for our iniquities - Ps. 22, Is. 53 so we may be healed, at peace with God – no condemnation never separated from the love God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 5:1, 8:1, 8:37-39)

**Man's Participation – B** (Repentance, Faith, Lordship) Repent - Mt. 4:17, Be Perfect – Mt. 5:48/ Seek His righteousness – Mt. 6:33, Enter the narrow gate of Jesus to eternal life – Mt. 7:13-14, John 14:6, Repent and Believe the good news of forgiveness exclusively through Jesus - Mark 1:15, 6:12, Luke 1:17, 5:32, 13:3-5, 15:10, 24:47, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Repent and believe/trust in the name of Jesus for forgiveness of sins - Acts 2:38, 3:19, 3:26, 5:31, 9:35, 10:43, 11:21, 13:38-39, 14:15, 16:31, 17:30, 20:21, 26: 18, Be justified by God/His righteousness through faith in Jesus - Rom. 3:28, 4:6-9, 5:1, Gal. 2:16, 3:8-11, 14, 24, 26, Eph. 2:8-10, Phil. 3:8-11, 2 Cor. 3:16, 10:9-13, Turn from idols to serve the true God - 1 Thess. 1:9, salvation is by faith in Jesus who credits/imputes God's righteous standing - 2 Tim. 3:15, Hebrews 11, real faith is proven/evidenced by good deeds/fruits of the Spirit produced by the Holy Spirit – James 2, Romans 8:5-14, 14:17, Gal. 5:22-26, 1 Peter 3:11, 1 John 1:7-2:6, 2:15-20, 3:3-10, 4:1-8, 5:1-5

**God's Promise – L**! (Eternal Life = New Life Now, Kingdom Life Soon, Heavenly Life Forever) New Creation – 2 Cor. 5:15-21, Abundant/Fullest Life – John 10:10, Entrance into the Millennial Kingdom of God (Mt. 7:21, 8:11, Mark 1:15, 4:11, 9:1, 47, 10:14-15, 14:25, Luke 4:43, 6:20, 8:1, 10, 9:2, 11, 27, 60, ch 13, 16:16, 17:20-21, 18:16-17, 29-30, 21:31, 22:16-18, 30, John 3:3-8, Acts 1:3, 8:12, 14:22, 19:8, 28:23-31, Romans 14:17, 1 Cor. 4:20, 6:9-10, 15:20, Gal. 5:19-21, 2 Thess. 1:5, Heaven Proper/New Heavens, New Earth, New Jerusalem – Rev. 3:12, chs 21-22, Is. 65:17, 66:22, 2 Peter 3:13, Heb. 9:11-24, 2 Cor. 5:1-10, Mark 14:58/Acts 7:48, 17:24

Blanks: Relationship, Sin, Jesus, Believing, Life



## IV. The Gospel/Good News of Jesus in greater depth:

### A. **UNDERSTANDING** The Gospel - Jesus' Life, Death, and Resurrection (the **SOURCE** of Salvation)

#### 1. Jesus' **PERFECT LIFE** = Imputed R\_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 5:17-18, 1 John 3:51, Peter 2:21-22, Hebrews 4:15, 7:26-28 Romans 8:3-4, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

#### 2. Jesus' **SACRIFICIAL DEATH** = Total F\_\_\_\_\_

- Matthew 9:5-7, 26:26-28, Mark 2:7,10, Luke 24:47, Colossians 2:13-14, Acts 2:38, 10:43, 13:38-39, 26:17-18, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:13-14, Hebrews 9:22-28, Romans 5:8-10, 1 Corinthians 15:3, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Isaiah 53:4-5

#### 3. Jesus' **VICTORIOUS RESURRECTION** = Eternal L\_\_\_\_\_!

- John 1:1-31, 2:25, 11:25-26, 3:15-16, 3:36, 5:24, 6:40, 6:47, 10:27-30, 17:2-3, Acts 13:48, Romans 5:10-11, 5:21, 8:11, 5:17, 6:22-23, 1 Timothy 1:16, Titus 3:5-71, 1 John 5:11-13, 5:20

### B. **RECEIVING** the Gospel requires True Belief & includes the *heart attitudes* of Repentance, Faith, & Lordship (The Response to Salvation)

#### 1. R\_\_\_\_\_ - **Leave** (sin, self, slavery/control by Satan) willingness to turn from sin and leave your life of sin

- Mark 1:15-17, Luke 18:13-14, 24:46-48, John 8:11-12, Ephesians 4:17-24, Colossians 3:5-11

#### 2. F\_\_\_\_\_ - **Lean** (rely, trust, depend) salvation *through faith* Romans 3:22, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 3:8-9

#### 3. L\_\_\_\_\_ - **Lord** (learn, live, love) (Making the Good Confession – Rom.10:9-13, 1Cor.12:3, 1Tim.6:12-13, Heb.3:1,4:14,10:23, Mk. 8:38)

### C. **COUNTING** THE COST OF THE GOSPEL (Following Jesus - Luke 14) - you must believe the gospel by faith and BE WILLING to turn from yours sins and follow and worship Jesus as your personal Savior and LORD! (The Change after Salvation)

#### 1. Are you willing to Follow and L\_\_\_\_\_ from Jesus through His Holy Word? (knowledge, understanding, wisdom)

- John 5:24, John 8:51, John 14:23-26, James 1:21-22, Acts 10:34-36, 2 Peter 3:17-18

#### 2. Are you willing to Walk and L\_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit towards progressive Holy Living? (follow, obey, apply)

- John 14:15-21, Luke 6:46-49, Matthew 7:22-28, 1 John 2:3-6

#### 3. Are you willing to L\_\_\_\_\_ and worship Jesus as part of the Holy Trinity? (worship, glorify, exalt) (Matthew 22:37-38)

### D. **WARNING** against False Gospels, False Teachers, Fraudulent Miracles, and Fake Versions of Jesus

The Bible warns about false gospels in 2 Corinthians 11:4 and Galatians 1:6-9 with very strong words (different gospels distort, disturb, & ultimately damn "accursed") **Here are 6 false gospels popular in our day/culture that are different, distorting, & damning:**

**1. The False Gospel of NO R**\_\_\_\_\_ (The mixture of truth that Jesus wants you to come as you are with the lie that its Ok to stay as you are – just add Jesus to your life of sin... continue to live as usual with your get out of Hell free card, no sorrow, brokenness, contrition, or confession of sin is necessary for salvation...no willingness to leave your life of sin/slavery to sin is required as a condition of salvation). Mark 1:15, Luke 18:13-14, 24:47, Acts 2:38, 17:30, 20:31, 26:20, 2 Cor. 7:8-11 clearly shows repentance is required in order to receive Jesus gracious offer of salvation.

**2. The False Gospel of NO L**\_\_\_\_\_ /no commitment (no willingness required to obey, follow, or worship Jesus as your personal Lord, Master, Owner/Boss) This lie is not compatible with clear Lordship passages like Luke 6:46-49, Matthew 7:21-27, 10:37, Mark 8:34-48, Luke 14:26-35, John 12:25, Romans 6:16-18, 10:9-13

**3. The False Gospel of NO F**\_\_\_\_\_ / Easy Believism/ Cheap Grace (faith/belief can merely be intellectual assent, just a point in time, and not trusting, relying, or depending on Jesus in continual, ongoing, and real for a lifetime. James 2:19-26, Matthew 15:8-9, Isaiah 29:13, Romans 6:1-18, Titus 1:16, 1 John 2:3-6, and 2 Timothy 2:19 blow this false gospel out of the water.

**4. The False Gospel of NO C**\_\_\_\_\_ /no Holy Spirit / no progressive holy living by the power of the Holy Spirit (no expectation or pursuit of putting off sin or putting on righteousness in its place, no new creation where the old has gone and the new has come – including the fruits of the Spirit) 2 Cor. 5:15-21, Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:22-32, John 14:17, Romans 8:5-14, 1 John 1:5-2:6, Col. 3:1-17

**5. The False Gospel of NO A**\_\_\_\_\_ - **WORKS** Salvation - where you earn or maintain your salvation by your own good deeds. (What you must DO vs what Jesus has already DONE–God's Grace vs Man's Performance). Eph. 2:8-10, Phil. 3:3-9, Rom. 3:20-26, 4:2-5, 5:1, 9:12,32, Gal. 2:16, 3:8-12, 24

**6. The False Gospel with NO J**\_\_\_\_\_ - a Fake Jesus John the Apostle had much to say the implications of getting Jesus Identity correct as 100% God and man - John 1:1-5, 1:14 ,1:51 ,3:13, 8:18-24,10:30-33,20:31-21:1, 1 John 2:22-23, 4:1-3, 4:15, 5:10-13. Ephesians 1:7-12, Col. 1:15, 2:9, Acts 9:22, Romans 8:34, 1 Cor. 12:3, and 15:1-4 also clear on Jesus not only being the Messiah but being God in human flesh. (Jesus is not divine/100% God (Arianism), Jesus is not a real man/100% human (Gnosticism/Docetism), He is just a good moral teacher/just a prophet, not resurrected (Islam), Jesus is a god but also created being/Satan's brother (Mormonism), Jesus is an angel the Archangel Michael (JWs), Jesus is the only God not part of a Trinity but but morphs between Father, Son, and Spirit (Modalists/Oneness Pentecostals), Jesus is only love, doesn't judge or will never judge (Unitarians), Jesus won't send anyone to Hell/Annihilationist (7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists), Jesus was just a man/rebel leader and not the Messiah (Judaism), Jesus is a relic/statue to bow down, my genie/good luck charm (cross necklaces) to make me happy and give me what I want to (many Secularists who believe in God), Jesus is a co-redeemer/co-mediator with Mary who is sacrificed and eaten daily/weekly to forgive me so I can keep living for myself like the rest of the world (many religious must not saved/Roman Catholics), Jesus is one of millions of Gods, reincarnated, or part of the light/example/force/karma of good (Hindus, Buddhists), and Jesus isn't real/never existed/is a fairytale (Atheists, Agnostics). My Jesus/my God would never send anyone to Hell (many Protestants who often create a God/Jesus of their own making and liking)

## V. Application:

Right now you may say you know Jesus, but on Judgment Day will Jesus say He knows you? (Mt. 7:22-27) **2 Corinthians 5:15-21 He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.** ... Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

<sup>18</sup> Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, <sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; **we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.** <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

# GIVING

## Ways To Give

### Give Online

Use this online giving form to tithe right here.

### Give In Person

Sunday mornings are a great time to give. During offering all donations are collected.

### Mail A Check

Checks & cash can be mailed in. Please mail to our church office location.

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Hollywood, MD 20636



FUND

TBC General Giving ▾

FREQUENCY

One-Time

Weekly

Monthly

\$ 0

Enter a dollar amount to make a gift.



# TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



## FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

### LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

**Matthew 22:37-38** <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.

### SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

**Matthew 22:39** <sup>39</sup> "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

### REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

**Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."


# Romans 3:20–26

Romans 3:20–26 <sup>20</sup> because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

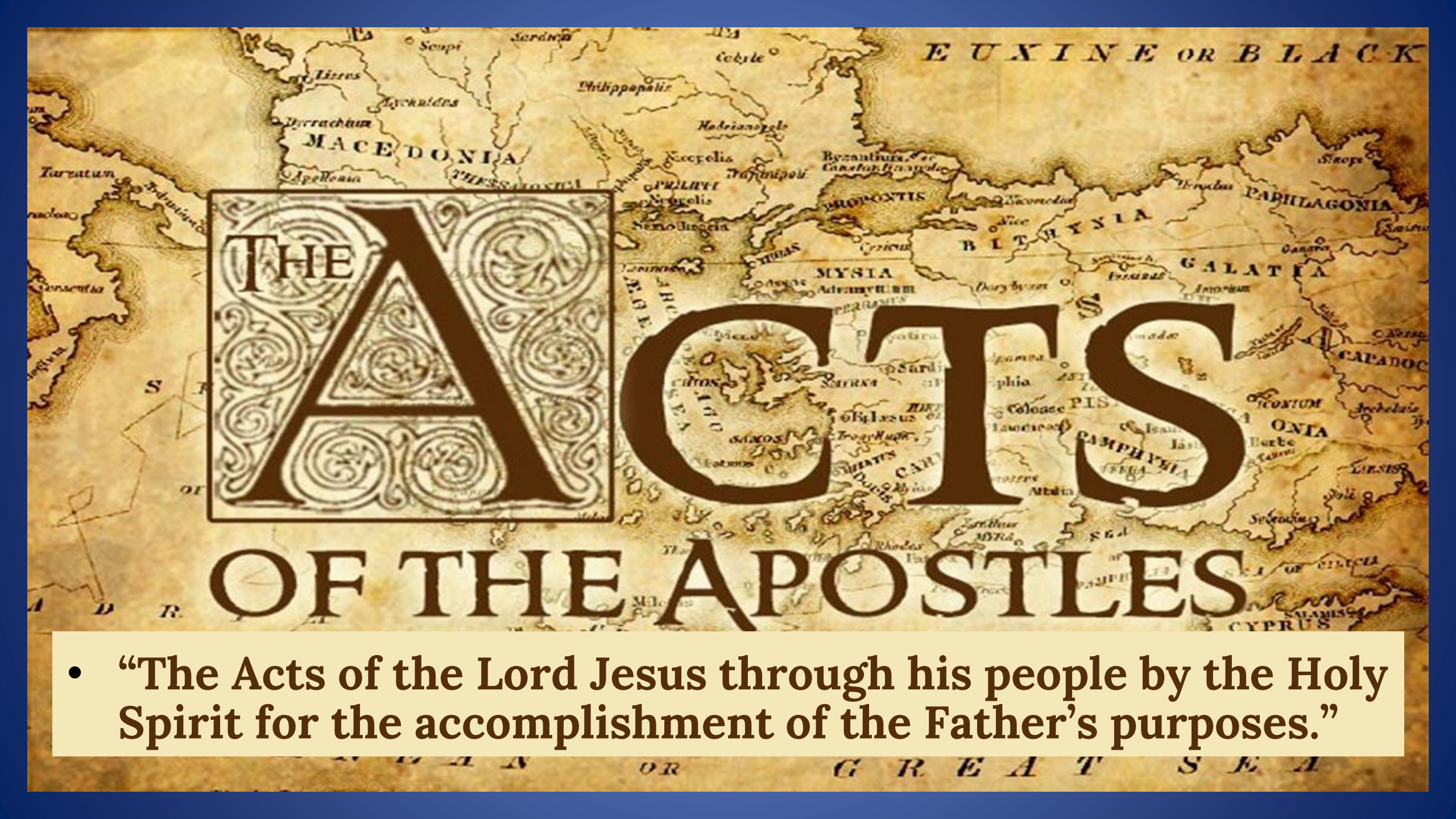


# Romans 10:9-17

<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." <sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" <sup>16</sup> However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" <sup>17</sup> So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.







# THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through his people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”



Sermon Title:

# “7 Foundations of a Biblical Church” (pt 3)

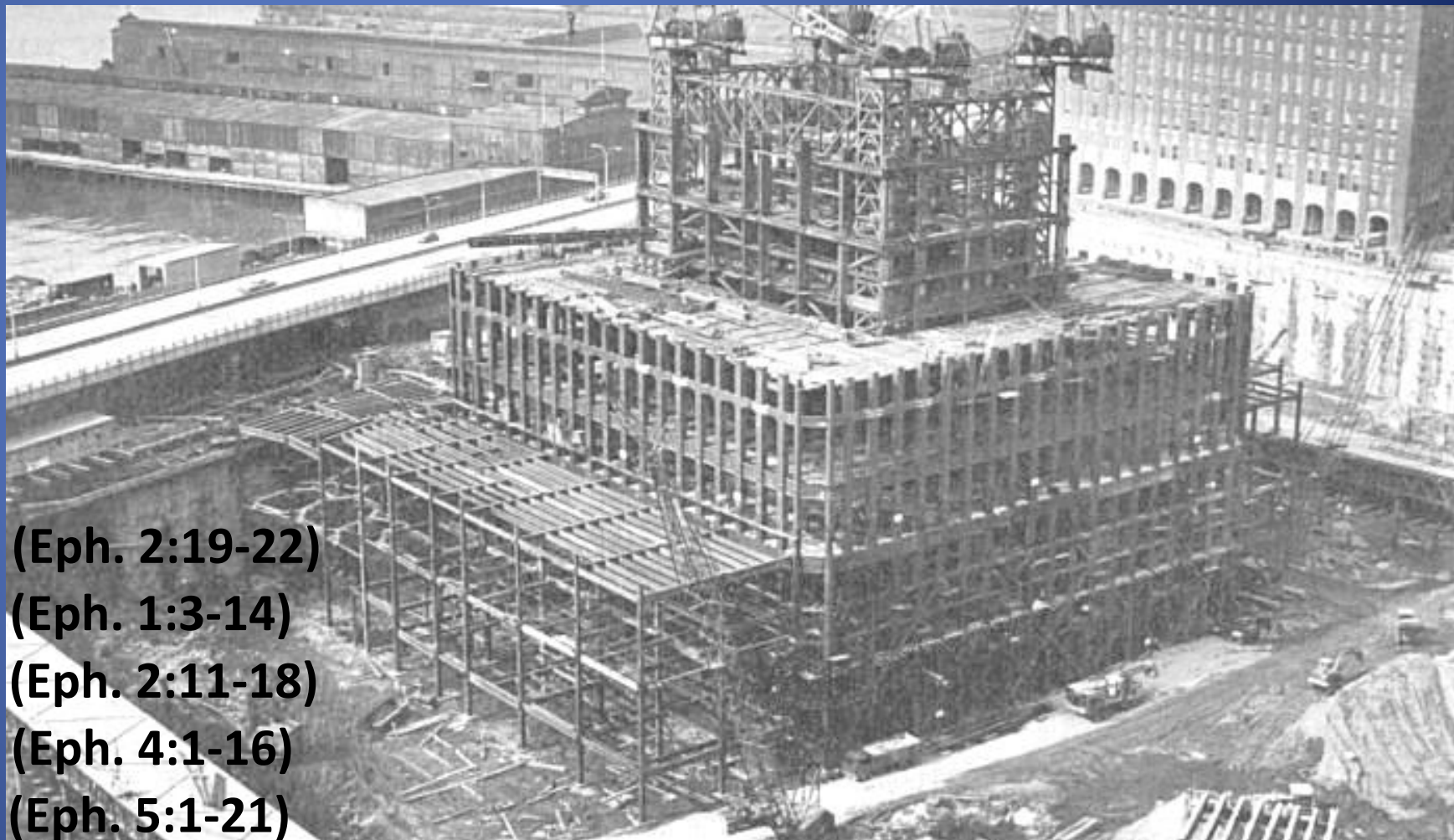
(The blueprint of Scripture for building God-honoring churches)

- TBC St. Mary’s  
August 17, 2008

- TBC Calvert  
September 10, 2023

5 Foundational Passages  
for the Launch of TBC Calvert:

- 1 Corinthians 3:4-15 (Eph. 2:19-22)
- Colossians 1:9-18 (Eph. 1:3-14)
- Romans 3:20-26, 10:9-13 (Eph. 2:11-18)
- Acts 2:42-27 (Eph. 4:1-16)
- 2 Timothy 3:12-4:5 (Eph. 5:1-21)





# 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

1. The Foundation of God's Glory (Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God alone) (1 Corinthians 3:4-15, Romans 11:36)

Ephesians 1:3-6

2. The Foundation of God's Son (Jesus our Cornerstone–100% Deity & Humanity)(Colossians 1:13-18,1 Peter 2:2-7)

Ephesians 1:7-12

3. The Foundation of God's Spirit (Prayer – Power, Perspective, Perseverance) (Colossians 1:9-12, 4:2)

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4. The Foundation of God's Gospel (The Good News of Jesus Life, Death, & Resurrection = Righteousness, Forgiveness, & Eternal Life IF one is believing in Jesus through repentance, faith, & Lordship) (Romans 3:20-26, 10:9-13, Acts 2:22-41)

Ephesians 2:8-10

5. The Foundation of God's Word (The Bible/Canon, revelation from God to measure truth from error, right from wrong, good from evil) (2 Timothy 3:10-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12, Romans 15:4, John 8:32, 17:17)

Ephesians 2:19-22, 3:1-5

6. The Foundation of God's Church (The Body & Bride of Christ – the pillar and support of the truth)

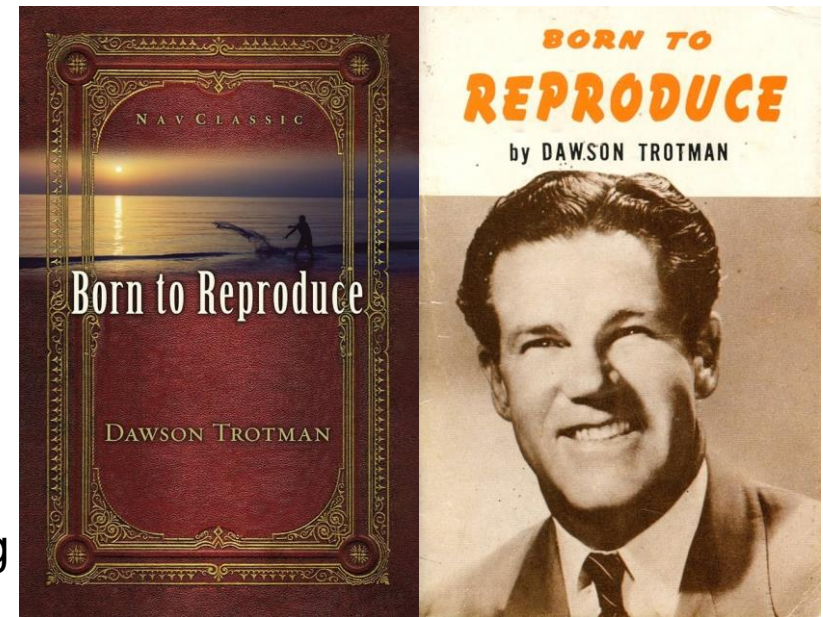
Ephesians 4:1-16 (Eph. 1:22-23, 3:10-11, 3:21, 4:1-16, 5:23-32, Acts 2:42-47)

7. The Foundation of God's Shepherds (Preaching Holy Living-to walk God's way)(1Tim.4:12-13,5:20,2Tim.4:1-5,Titus 2:15)

Ephesians 4:17-6:24

# Introduction:

- Our calling as a Church to be FAITHFUL to God and His Word, specifically to His Great Commission to make disciples, baptize them, and teach them everything He has commanded **(Matt.28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8)**
- Our calling as Individual Christians to be EXPERTS in the Biblical Gospel – to be ready to speak the truth in love and give a reason for our hope/faith in Jesus **(1 Peter 3:15, Ephesians 4:15, Colossians 4:5-6, 1 Tim. 4:5)**
- Our calling as Christ’s Followers/Slaves to be His Ambassadors **(2 Cor. 5:20)** who MULTIPLY/spiritually reproduce more disciples/worshippers by testifying of Him to others what He has done for us (our salvation) and what He promises in His Word to ALL who repent and by faith follow Him as Lord...and discipling/mentoring other Christians until they also are mature in their faith as evidenced by spiritual reproduction/multiplication **(2 Timothy 2:2, Colossians 1:28-29)**  
**(Read Dawson Trotman’s classic article “Born To Reproduce”)**





## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 1. The Foundation of God's Glory (What is Eternal / What Lasts)

Our Church must be:

- God Focused
- God Powered
- God Glorifying

*because it's*

1. **God's** growth (2x)
2. **God's** workers
3. **God's** field
4. **God's** building
5. **God's** grace

**1 Corinthians 3:4-15** <sup>4</sup> For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not *mere* men? <sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave *opportunity* to each one. <sup>6</sup> I planted, Apollos watered, but **God was causing the growth.** <sup>7</sup> So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but **God who causes the growth.** <sup>8</sup> Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. <sup>9</sup> For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. <sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 2. The Foundation of God's Son (to have the supremacy in EVERYTHING)

Jesus is our...

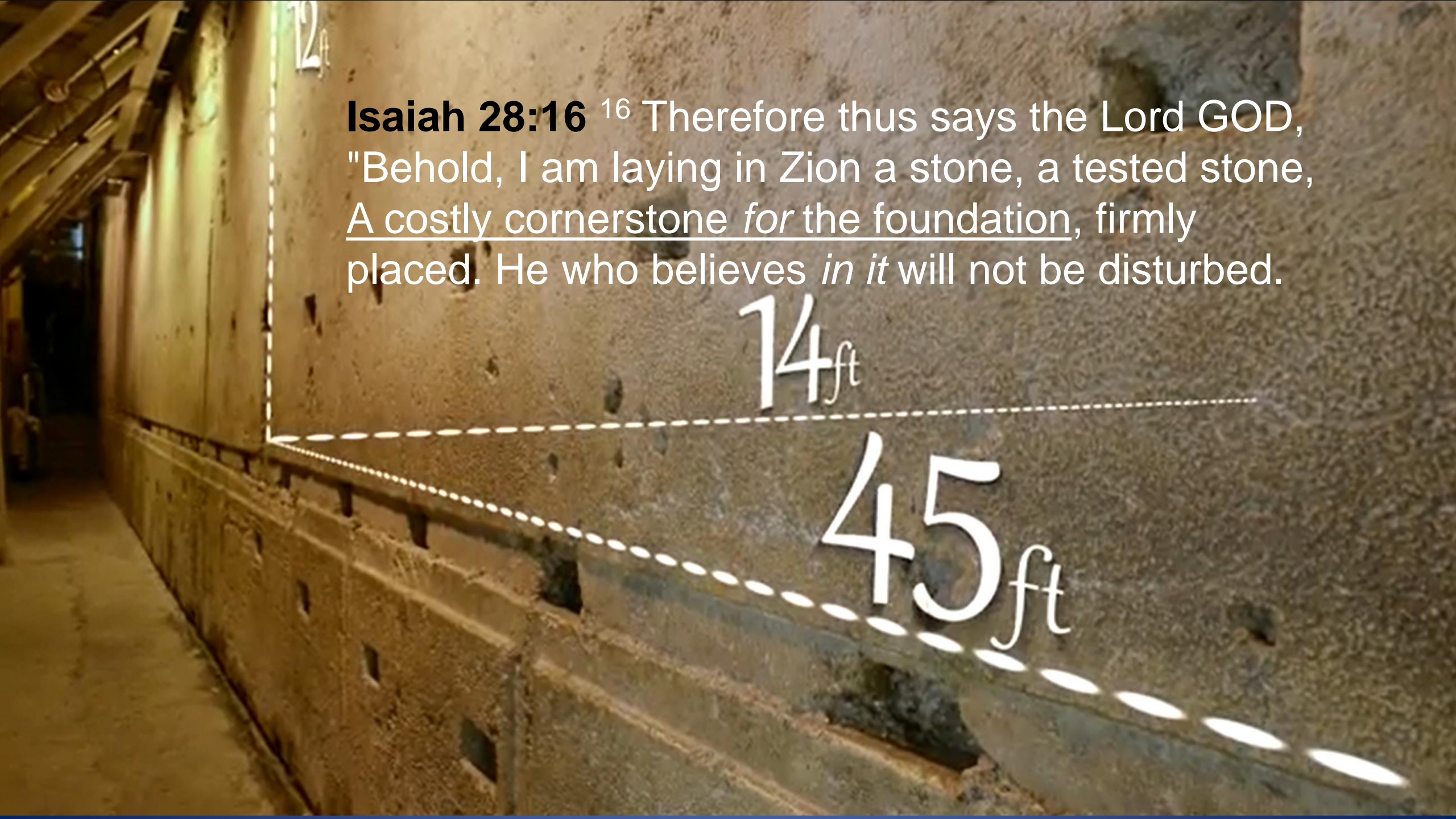
- **Deliverer** (from the domain of darkness - slavery to Sin/Satan/Hell)
- **King** (Entrance into God's Eternal Kingdom)
- **Redeemer** (redemption - saved from God's wrath by His blood)
- **Savior** (Forgiveness of ALL sin)

*Jesus is:*

1. The **Image** of the Invisible God
2. **Preeminent one** of all creation (Unique one/preeminent)
3. The **Creator** of the Universe (all things created through Him and FOR Him)
4. **Sustainer** of Life (in Him all things hold together)
5. **Head** of the Church
6. **First one** from the dead (beginning – will raise us also)
7. **Worthy** of 1<sup>st</sup> Place/ Supremacy in EVERYTHING!

**Colossians 1:13-18** <sup>13</sup> For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.





**Isaiah 28:16** <sup>16</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord GOD,  
"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone,  
A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly  
placed. He who believes *in it* will not be disturbed.

14ft

45ft

## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 3. The Foundation of God's Spirit (The Holy Spirit)

(Perspective, Power, and Perseverance through PRAYER)

### Our Church must be:

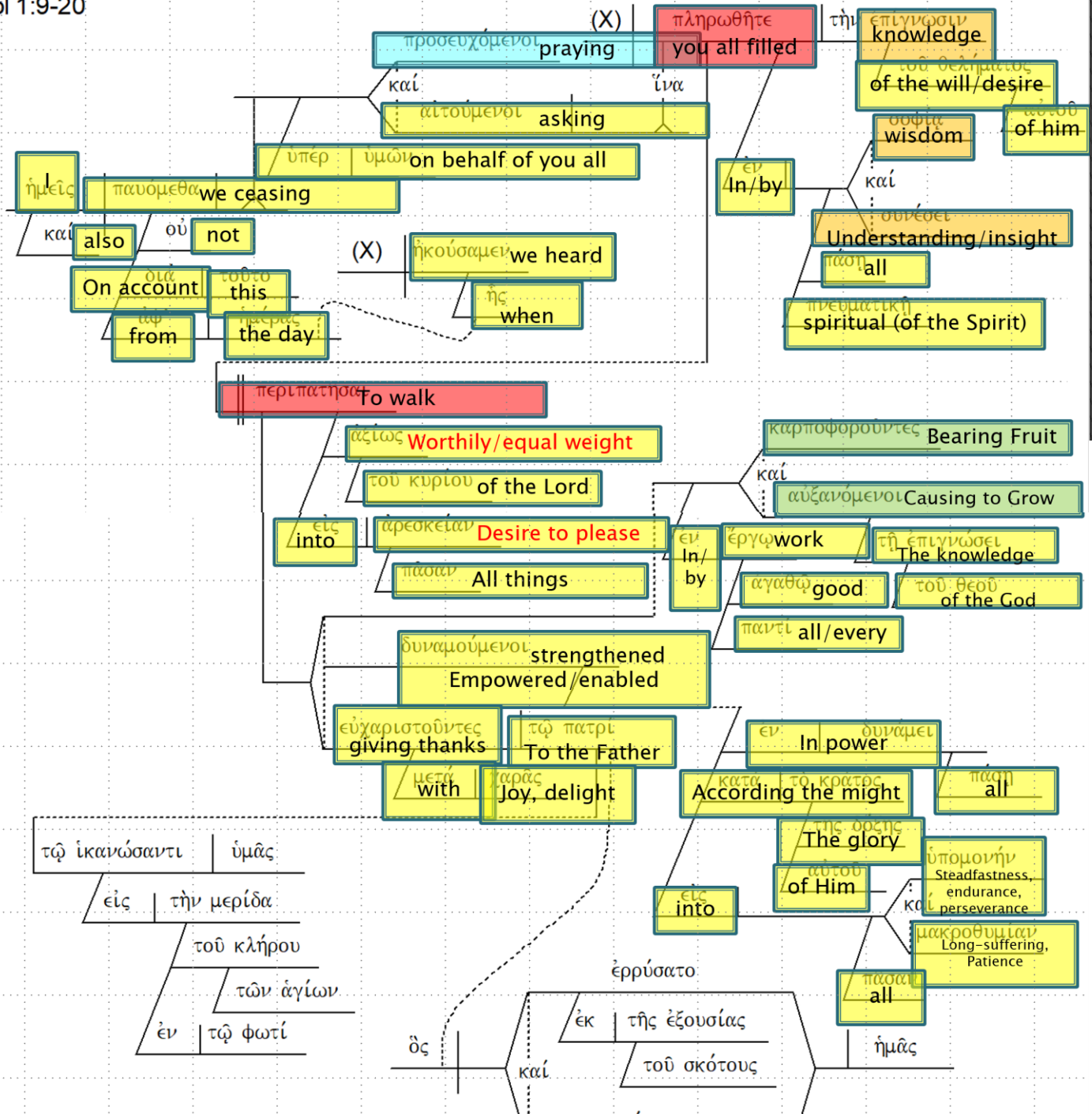
- Devoted to Prayer  
(Ps. 62, Col. 4:2, 1 Thess. 5:17)
- Praying for each other constantly  
(like Paul was praying unceasingly for the Colossians)

*in order to be:*

1. **Filled** (with God's knowledge, wisdom, understanding)
2. **Walk Worthy** of the Lord
  - a. **Pleasing** Him at all times/all ways
  - b. **Fruitful** in good works/increasing knowledge
  - c. **Strengthened** (all power, all steadfastness)
  - d. **Giving Thanks** to the Father (inheritance)

**Colossians 1:9-12** <sup>9</sup> For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.





Paul in his epistles/letters usually starts with a “grace and peace” salutation, followed by his unceasing personal PRAYER for a particular church or Pastor. Colossians 1:9–12 is a great model prayer to pray for your spouse, family, and church...are you praying for fellow believers to be FILLED (God’s will, wisdom, and spiritual understanding) and to WALK WORTHY of the Lord Jesus (by seeking to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God) so that we are strengthened in all of God’s power and may be steadfast, patient, joyful, and thankful to God for His amazing grace to share in His Kingdom/inheritance of light prepared for us the saints.

**List specific things you are praying earnestly & regularly for...**

1. Your Spouse
2. Your Children
3. Your Family
4. Your Friends
5. Your Church
6. Your Country
7. Your World
8. Yourself

# The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

## 4. The Foundation of God's Gospel

(The GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ's Perfect Life, Sacrificial Death, and Victorious Resurrection)

### 1. God's Plan of the Gospel – **LOVE (Relationship)**

**John 3:16, 17:3, Hebrews 8:10-13** (purpose to know, love, serve, worship God forever)

### 2. Man's Problem requiring the Gospel – **SIN** (separation, death, Hell)

**Romans 3:23, 6:23, Isaiah 59:2**

### 3. God's Provision of the Gospel – **Jesus (Savior & LORD)**

(Jesus' life, death, resurrection for

Imputed righteousness, total forgiveness, and eternal life)

**Colossians 2:13-16, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18**

### 4. Man's Participation to receive the Gospel – **Believing** (trusting & relying)

(true belief involves repentance, faith, and LORDSHIP)

**Acts 16:31, 17:30, Romans 10:9-13**

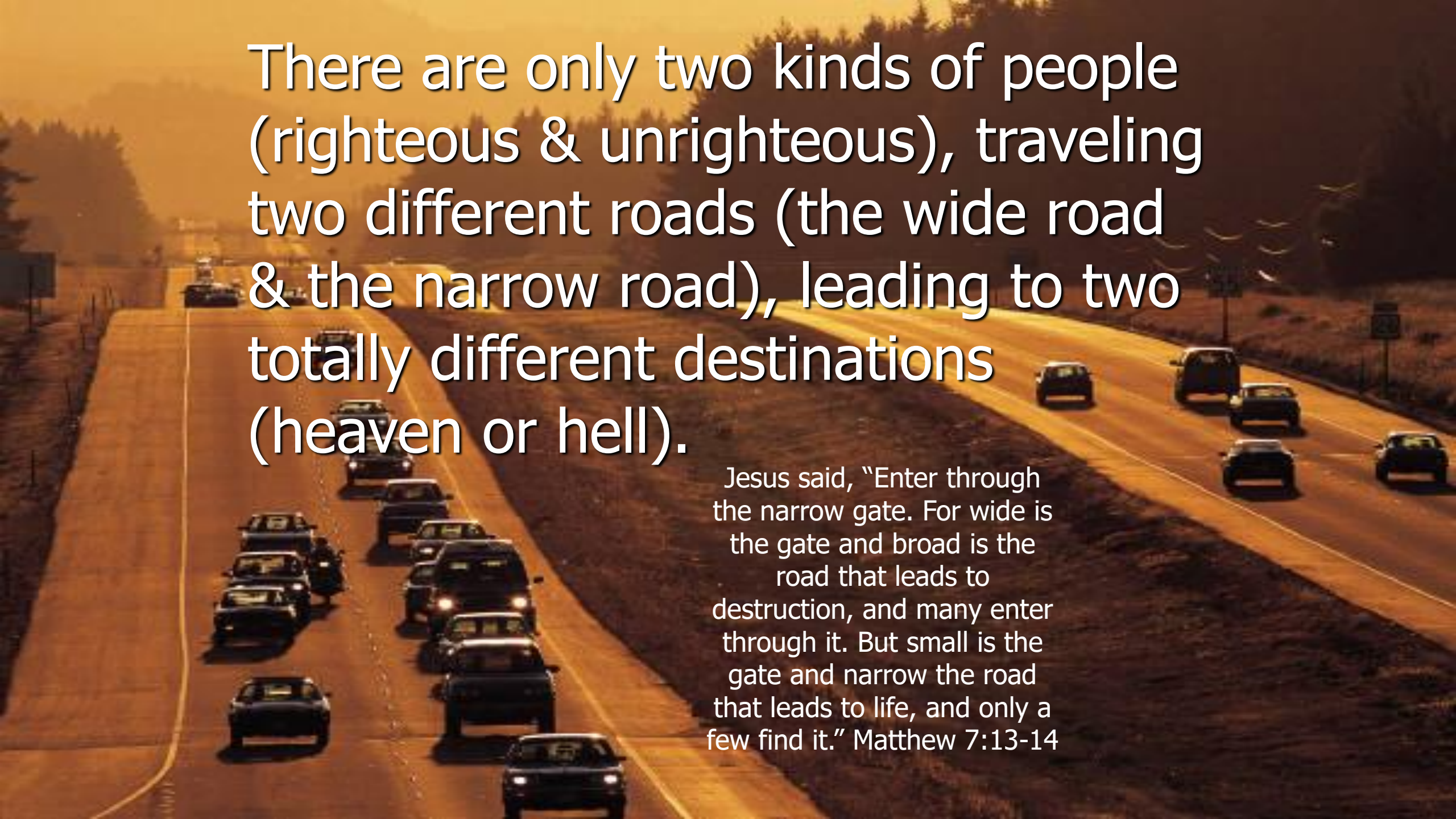
### 5. God's Promise because of the Gospel – **LIFE**

(New life now, Kingdom life soon, Heavenly life forever)

**John 10:10, 2 Cor. 5:15-21, Col. 1:13, Rev. 21-22**

Acts 2:22-36 (The Source of Salvation) <sup>22</sup> "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know-- <sup>23</sup> this *Man*, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death. <sup>24</sup> "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> "For David says of Him, 'I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE; FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN. <sup>26</sup> 'THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE; <sup>27</sup> BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES, NOR ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY. <sup>28</sup> 'YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE; YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.' <sup>29</sup> "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, <sup>31</sup> he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY. <sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. <sup>33</sup> "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. <sup>34</sup> "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, <sup>35</sup> UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'" <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified."



A photograph of a highway at dusk or dawn. The left side of the image shows a wide, multi-lane highway with a long line of cars, representing the 'wide road'. The right side shows a much narrower road with only a few cars, representing the 'narrow road'. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

There are only two kinds of people (righteous & unrighteous), traveling two different roads (the wide road & the narrow road), leading to two totally different destinations (heaven or hell).

Jesus said, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Matthew 7:13-14



# 5 P'S THAT EXPLAIN THE BIBLICAL GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) OF JESUS CHRIST

**God's Plan – RELATIONSHIP** (Love, Know, Serve, Worship God Forever) Love - Mt.22:37, Know - John 17:3,

Abide – John 14:17-23, 15:4-10, Adopt - Rom.8:15-23, Gal.4:5-7, Eph.1:5, Dwell/Walk with - 2 Cor.6:16/Lev.26:12, Covenant/I their God, they my people - Heb.8:10/Jer. 31:33, Rev.21:3/Ezek.36:28,37:27

**Man's Problem – SIN** (Curse, Death, Hell/Eternal Separation) Deception/Lie – Gen. 3, Rebellion – Dt. 9:7,23, Ps. 5:10,

78:8, 56, 107:11, Sin/miss the mark - Rom. 3:9-20, 23, 6:23, Curse - Gal. 3:10-22, Unclean - Prov. 20:9, Iniquities/guilt - Is. 59:2, Unrighteous - Ecc. 7:20, Trespasses – Eph. 2:1, deceitful/wicked/evil/depraved mind – Gen. 6:5, Prov. 6:16-19, Rom. 1:28-32, Prov. 24:20, Is. 13:11, Jer. 13:10, 17:9, Ps. 7:9, Ez. 18:23, 33:11

**God's Provision – JESUS** (Perfect Life, Sacrificial Death, Victorious Resurrection) Salvation a gift of

God's grace - John 3:15-18, Rom. 5:8-15, 6:23b, Eph. 2:8, Justification/Redemption/Propitiation - Romans 3:20-26, Regeneration/spiritual rebirth/born again - Titus 3:4-7, John 3:3, Righteousness from God - Philippians 3:8-11, Good news – Christ Died for our sins, raised accord. Scriptures - 1 Cor. 15:1-4, Forgiveness of our trespasses by rich/lavish grace - Eph. 1:7-12, Reconciled by blood, Rescued from kingdom of darkness/transferred to Jesus' Kingdom - Colossians 1:13-23, Made Alive/forgiven ALL transgression - 2:13-15, entered tabernacle in heaven for us by His own blood and obtained eternal redemption/make perfect those being sanctified - Heb. 9:11-28, 10:14, our substitute/bore our sins in His own body on the cross - 1 Peter 2:24, reconciled us to God – 1 Peter 3:18, 2 Cor. 5:15-21, was pierced for our transgressions/crushed for our iniquities - Ps. 22, Is. 53 so we may be healed, at peace with God – no condemnation never separated from the love God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 5:1, 8:1, 8:37-39)

**Man's Participation – BELIEVING** (Repentance, Faith, Lordship) Repent - Mt. 4:17, Be Perfect – Mt. 5:48/ Seek

His righteousness – Mt. 6:33, Enter the narrow gate of Jesus to eternal life – Mt. 7:13-14, John 14:6, Repent and Believe the good news of forgiveness exclusively through Jesus - Mark 1:15, 6:12, Luke 1:17, 5:32, 13:3-5, 15:10, 24:47, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Repent and believe/trust in the name of Jesus for forgiveness of sins - Acts 2:38, 3:19, 3:26, 5:31, 9:35, 10:43, 11:21, 13:38-39, 14:15, 16:31, 17:30, 20:21, 26:18, Be justified by God/His righteousness through faith in Jesus - Rom. 3:28, 4:6-9, 5:1, Gal. 2:16, 3:8-11, 14, 24, 26, Eph. 2:8-10, Phil. 3:8-11, 2 Cor. 3:16, 10:9-13, Turn from idols to serve the true God - 1 Thess. 1:9, salvation is by faith in Jesus who credits/imputes God's righteous standing - 2 Tim. 3:15, Hebrews 11, real faith is proven/evidenced by good deeds/fruits of the Spirit produced by the Holy Spirit – James 2, Romans 8:5-14, 14:17, Gal. 5:22-26, 1 Peter 3:11, 1 John 1:7-2:6, 2:15-20, 3:3-10, 4:1-8, 5:1-5

**God's Promise – LIFE** (Eternal Life = New Life Now, Kingdom Life Soon, Heavenly Life Forever) New Creation – 2

Cor. 5:15-21, Abundant/Fullest Life – John 10:10, Entrance into the Millennial Kingdom of God (Mt. 7:21, 8:11, Mark 1:15, 4:11, 9:1, 47, 10:14-15, 14:25, Luke 4:43, 6:20, 8:1, 10, 9:2, 11, 27, 60, ch 13, 16:16, 17:20-21, 18:16-17, 29-30, 21:31, 22:16-18, 30, John 3:3-8, Acts 1:3, 8:12, 14:22, 19:8, 28:23-31, Romans 14:17, 1 Cor. 4:20, 6:9-10, 15:20, Gal. 5:19-21, 2 Thess. 1:5, Heaven Proper/New Heavens, New Earth, New Jerusalem – Rev. 3:12, chs 21-22, Is. 65:17, 66:22, 2 Peter 3:13, Heb. 9:11-24, 2 Cor. 5:1-10, Mark 14:58/Acts 7:48, 17:24



"I AM THE WAY  
AND THE TRUTH  
AND THE LIFE."

-JOHN 14:6



## THE NEED, SOURCE, RESPONSE, PROOF METHOD

1. The **OVERVIEW** of Salvation (John 3, Romans 3, Titus 3)
2. The **NEED** for Salvation (Our sins that deserve the curse, death, and separation from God) Acts 2:36/Romans 3:9-23
3. The **SOURCE** of Salvation (Jesus – His life, death, and resurrection for righteousness, forgiveness, and eternal life) Acts 4:12/John 14:6
4. The **RESPONSE** to Salvation (Believing – Biblical Belief in Jesus requires repentance, faith, and Lordship) Acts 20:21/John 3:16,36
5. The **PROOF** of Salvation (the Indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit who promises regeneration/spiritual rebirth/being born again, adoption, indwelling/intercession, new life/motivation and power to change, progressive sanctification/holiness, perseverance of the saints/remain faithful to Christ) Acts 2:38/Ephesians 1:13-14

# THE SELF-DIRECTED LIFE



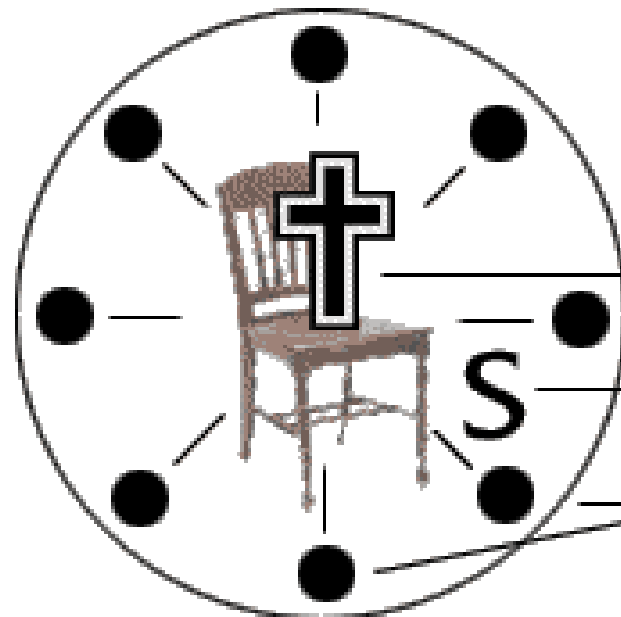
**SELF is on the throne**

**Interests are directed by self, resulting in discord, frustration**



**Christ is outside the life**

# THE CHRIST-DIRECTED LIFE



**CHRIST is on the throne**

**Self is yielding to Christ**

**Interests are directed by Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan**



## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 4. The Foundation of God's Gospel

(The Good News of Jesus Christ's Perfect Life, Sacrificial Death, and Victorious Resurrection)

Romans 10:9-13 <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

### Acts 2:38-42 (The Response to Salvation)

38

Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." <sup>40</sup> And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" <sup>41</sup> So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. <sup>42</sup> They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

# The Gospel/Good News is Jesus' Life, Death, and Resurrection

## Jesus' **PERFECT LIFE** = Imputed **RIGHTEOUSNESS**

- Matthew 5:17-18, 1 John 3:51, Peter 2:21-22, Hebrews 4:15, 7:26-28  
Romans 8:3-4, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

## Jesus' **SACRIFICIAL DEATH** = Total **FORGIVENESS**

- Matthew 9:5-7, 26:26-28, Mark 2:7,10, Luke 24:47, Colossians 2:13-14, Acts 2:38, 10:43, 13:38-39, 26:17-18, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:13-14, Hebrews 9:22-28, Romans 5:8-10, 1 Corinthians 15:3, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Isaiah 53:4-5

## Jesus' **VICTORIOUS RESURRECTION** = Eternal **LIFE**

- John 1:1-31, 2:25, 11:25-26, 3:15-16, 3:36, 5:24, 6:40, 6:47, 10:27-30, 17:2-3, Acts 13:48, Romans 5:10-11, 5:21, 8:11, 5:17, 6:22-23, 1 Timothy 1:16, Titus 3:5-71, 1 John 5:11-13, 5:20



# True Belief requires and includes the heart attitudes of Repentance, Faith, and Lordship

## REPENTANCE - Leave (sin, self, Satan) willingness to turn from sin

- **Mark 1:15-17** "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." <sup>16</sup> As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."
- **Luke 18:13-14** <sup>13</sup> "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' <sup>14</sup> "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."
- **Luke 24:46-48** "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> "You are witnesses of these things.
- **John 8:11-12** And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more." <sup>12</sup> Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."
- **Ephesians 4:17-24** <sup>17</sup> So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, <sup>18</sup> being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; <sup>19</sup> and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. <sup>20</sup> But you did not learn Christ in this way, <sup>21</sup> if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, <sup>23</sup> and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup> and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.
- **Colossians 3:5-11** <sup>5</sup> Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. <sup>6</sup> For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, <sup>7</sup> and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. <sup>8</sup> But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him-- <sup>11</sup> *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.*

## FAITH - Lean (rely, trust, depend) salvation through faith

- Romans 3:22 *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe;
- Galatians 2:16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.
- Ephesians 2:8-9 <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; <sup>9</sup> not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.
- Philippians 3:8-9 the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, <sup>9</sup> and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,

## LORDSHIP - Lord (learn, live, love)

- **Romans 10:9-13** <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

To receive the gospel you must repent and believe the good news by faith – trusting and willing to follow and worship Jesus as your personal Savior and LORD!

## Are you willing to Learn from Jesus? (knowledge, understanding, wisdom)

- **John 5:24** <sup>24</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.
- **John 8:51** <sup>51</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he will never see death."
- **John 14:23-26** <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. <sup>24</sup> "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. <sup>25</sup> "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. <sup>26</sup> "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.
- **James 1:21-22** <sup>21</sup> Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.
- **Acts 10:34-36** "I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him. <sup>36</sup> "The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)–
- **2 Peter 3:17-18** <sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, <sup>18</sup> but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

## Are you willing to Live for Jesus? (follow, obey, apply)

- **John 14:15-21** <sup>15</sup> "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> "After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also. <sup>20</sup> "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."
- **Luke 6:46-49** <sup>46</sup> "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? <sup>47</sup> "Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: <sup>48</sup> he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup> "But the one who has heard and has not acted *accordingly*, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."
- **Matthew 7:22-28** <sup>22</sup> "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' <sup>23</sup> "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.' <sup>24</sup> "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. <sup>25</sup> "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. <sup>26</sup> "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. <sup>27</sup> "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell-- and great was its fall." <sup>28</sup> When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching;
- **1 John 2:3-6** <sup>3</sup> By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. <sup>4</sup> The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: <sup>6</sup> the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

## Are you willing to Love like Jesus? (worship, glorify, exalt)

**Matthew 22:37-38** <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.



# The Bible Warns About **False** Gospels, **Fraudulent** works of the Holy Spirit, and **Fake** Versions of Jesus

- **2 Corinthians 11:4** <sup>4</sup> For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.
- **Galatians 1:6-9** <sup>6</sup> I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; <sup>7</sup> which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

# 1. The False Gospel of NO REPENTANCE

(no sorrow, brokenness, contrition, confession of sin, no willingness to leave your life of sin/slavery to sin)

Jesus said in **Mark 1:15** <sup>15</sup> "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

- **Repent** (μετανοέω *metanoeo*: to change one's mind or *purpose*)
  - From μετά *meta* (to change): with, among, after
  - AND νοέω *noeo*: to perceive, think (mind, heart, inner will)
- **Believe** (πιστεύω *pisteuo*: to believe, entrust)
  - From πίστις *pistis*: faith, faithfulness
  - Root: πείθω *peitho*: to persuade, to have confidence
- **Good News** (εὐαγγέλιον *euaggelion*: good news)
  - From ευ *eu*: well / ευσ *eus* (good)
  - AND ἄγγελος *aggelos*: a messenger, angel
- **Luke 18:13-14, 24:47, Acts 2:38, 17:30, 20:21, 26:20, 2 Corinthians 7:8-11**



# 2. The False Gospel with NO LORDSHIP

(no COMMITMENT – no willingness to obey, follow, worship Jesus as Lord/master/owner/boss)

Jesus said in **Luke 6:46-49** <sup>46</sup> "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" <sup>47</sup> "Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: <sup>48</sup> he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup> "But the one who has heard and has not acted *accordingly*, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

**Also Matthew 7:21-27** <sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. <sup>22</sup> "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'" <sup>23</sup> "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'" <sup>24</sup> "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. <sup>25</sup> "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. <sup>26</sup> "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. <sup>27</sup> "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell-- and great was its fall."

- Matthew 10:37, Mark 8:34-38, Luke 14:26-35, John 12:25, Romans 6:16-18, \*\*\*10:9-13

# 3. The False Gospel with NO FAITH - Easy Believism/ Cheap Grace

(belief is only intellectual assent not trusting, relying, or depending)

- **James 2:19-26** <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. <sup>20</sup> But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless? ...<sup>22</sup> You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God. ... <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.
- **Matthew 15:8-9** <sup>8</sup> " 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. <sup>9</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.'"
- Isaiah 29:13, Romans 6:1-18, Titus 1:16, 1 John 2:3-6, 2 Timothy 2:19,



## 4. False Gospel with NO CHANGE/ no holy living by the H.S.

(gospel without put offs, put ons) (gospel without old life gone, new life come)  
gospel without the indwelling Holy Spirit.

- **2 Corinthians 5:15-21** <sup>15</sup> and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. <sup>16</sup> Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. <sup>18</sup> Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, <sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- **Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:22-32, John 14-17, Romans 8:5-14, 1 John 1:5-2:6, Col. 3:1-17**

## 5. False Gospel of WORKS – NO ASSURANCE of salvation

where you earn or maintain your salvation by your own good deeds.

(What you must DO vs what Jesus has already DONE – God's Grace vs Man's Performance)

- **Ephesians 2:8-10** <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- **Philippians 3:3-9** we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh-- <sup>4</sup> though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. <sup>7</sup> But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ-- the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.
- **Romans 3:20-26, 4:2-4, 9:12,32, Galatians 2:16, 3:12**



**6. False Gospel with NO JESUS - a Fake Jesus** – Jesus is not divine/100% God, Jesus is not a real man/100% human, He is just a good moral teacher, just a prophet, Jesus is a created being, Jesus is only love, never judges, is here to make me happy and give me what I want (vs promote His own glory)

- **John 1:1-5, 1:14 ,1:51 ,3:13, 8:18-24,10:30-33,20:31-21:1, 1 John 2:22-23, 4:1-3, 4:15**
- **1 John 4:2-3** <sup>2</sup> This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.
- **1 John 5:10-13** <sup>10</sup> Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. <sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.
- **John 5:1-5** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, ... <sup>5</sup> Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- **Ephesians 1:7-12, Colossians 1:15, 2:9, Acts 9:22, Romans 8:34, 1 Cor. 12:3, 15:1-4**

John the Apostle had much to say the implications of getting Jesus Identity correct as 100% God (Gospel of John) and 100% man (1 John)

## Examples of False Gospels with a Fake Jesus:

- (Jesus is not divine/100% God ([Arianism](#)))
- Jesus is not a real man/100% human ([Gnosticism/Docetism](#))
- He is just a good moral teacher/just a prophet, not resurrected ([Islam](#))
- Jesus is a god but also created being/Satan's brother ([Mormonism](#))
- Jesus is an angel the Archangel Michael ([Jehovah's Witnesses](#))
- Jesus is the only God not part of a Trinity but morphs between Father, Son, and Spirit ([Anti-Trinitarians/Modalists/Oneness Pentecostals](#))
- Jesus is only love, doesn't judge or will never judge ([Unitarians](#))
- Jesus won't send anyone to Hell/Annihilationist ([7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists](#))
- Jesus was just a man/rebel leader and not the Jewish Messiah ([Judaism](#))



# Examples of False Gospels with a Fake Jesus:

- Jesus is a relic/statue to bow down, my genie/good luck charm (cross necklaces) to make me happy & give me what I want in life (many Humanists/Secularists who believe in God)
- Jesus is a co-redeemer/co-mediator with Mary who is sacrificed and eaten daily/weekly at the Mass to forgive venial sins, but I still go to a version of Hell called Purgatory until I work/merit heaven (many religious but not saved Roman Catholics)
- Jesus is one of millions of Gods, reincarnated, or part of the light/example/force/karma of good (many Hindus, Buddhists)
- Jesus can't be known, isn't real/never existed, and is a fairytale (Atheists, Agnostics)
- My Jesus/my God would never send anyone to Hell (many Protestants who often create a God/Jesus of their own making and liking)

**But all of these are false gospels with a fake Jesus - not the real God of the Bible or the real historical Jesus who is God and thereby created the world, who is fully human and died for our sins with a real body as our sacrifice, who physically resurrected and is alive today to be known, loved, and worshipped, who because He is equal to God demands to be our personal Lord and have the supremacy/1st place in everything, and who is coming again soon to rapture the true church of real believers who follow, obey, and worship Him as King of kings and Lord of lords!**

# SO WHAT?

## Application



### Matthew 7:13-29

<sup>13</sup> "**Enter** through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. <sup>14</sup> "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

<sup>15</sup> "**Beware** of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup> "You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? <sup>17</sup> "So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> "A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup> "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> "So then, you will know them by their fruits.

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. <sup>22</sup> "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' <sup>23</sup> "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

<sup>24</sup> "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. <sup>25</sup> "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. <sup>26</sup> "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. <sup>27</sup> "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell-- and great was its fall." <sup>28</sup> When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; <sup>29</sup> for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as their scribes.



# SO WHAT?

## Application



**1 John 5:9-15** <sup>9</sup> If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. <sup>10</sup> The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. <sup>11</sup> **And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.** <sup>12</sup> **He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.** <sup>13</sup> These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup> This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:  
**Next Week (Pt. 4):**

- 5. The Foundation of God's Church (Acts 2:42-47, Ephesians 4:1-16)
- 6. The Foundation of God's Word (2 Timothy 3:10-17)
- 7. The Foundation of God's Shepherd's (2 Timothy 4:1-5)

# The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

## 5. The Foundation of God's Church

(The Good News of Jesus Christ's Perfect Life, Sacrificial Death, and Victorious Resurrection)

Notice the 4 main things the early church was DEVOTED to:

1. The Apostles **Teaching** (Bible Study – Learning New Testament Doctrine)
2. **Fellowship** (Practicing and Enjoying the “One Anothers”)
3. **Communion** - The Breaking of Bread (The Lord's Supper)
4. **Prayer**

The Outcome of this: (5 S's)

1. **Sense** of awe of what God was doing
2. **Sacrifice** (selling and sharing their possessions to meet each other's needs)
3. **Steadfastness** – day by day with One Passion (one mind)
4. **Sincerity** of heart – house to house, meals together
5. **Salvation** – the Lord was adding to their number day by day new converts

**Acts 2:42-47** <sup>42</sup> They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.



The “One Another” Passages The phrase "one another" is derived from the Greek word allelon which means "one another, each other; mutually, reciprocally." It occurs 100 times in the New Testament. Approximately 59 of those occurrences are specific commands teaching us how (and how not) to relate to one another. Obedience to those commands is imperative. It forms the basis for all true Christian community, and has a direct impact on our witness to the world (John 13:35). In addition to allelon, the Bible uses other words and phrases to instruct us how to relate to others. With that in mind, the following list is not exhaustive, and primarily focuses on the use of allelon.

## POSITIVE COMMANDS

Love one another (John 13:34 - This command occurs at least 16x)

Be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10)

Honor one another above yourselves (Romans 12:10)

Live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)

Build up one another (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Be likeminded towards one another (Romans 15:5)

Accept one another (Romans 15:7)

Admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16)

Greet one another (Romans 16:16)

Care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25)

Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)

Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)

Forgive one another (Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13)

Be patient with one another (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13)

Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15, 25)

Be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32)

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19)

Submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5)

Consider others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3)

Look to the interests of one another (Philippians 2:4)

Bear with one another (Colossians 3:13)

Teach one another (Colossians 3:16)

Comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

Encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Exhort one another (Hebrews 3:13)

Stir up [provoke, stimulate] one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)

Show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9)

Employ the gifts that God has given us for the benefit of one another (1 Peter 4:10)

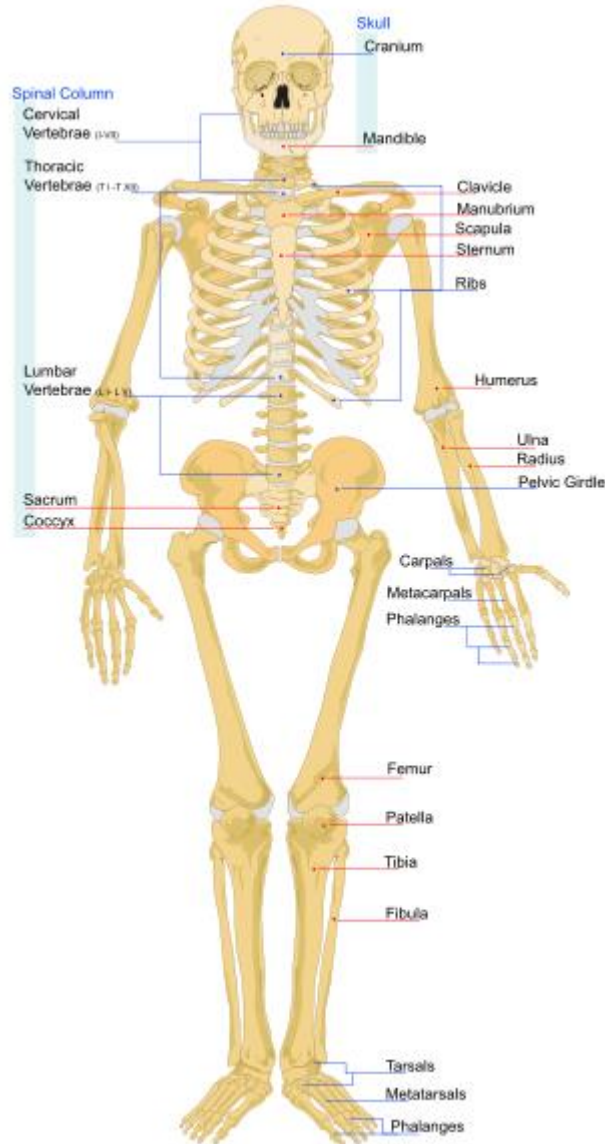
Clothe yourselves with humility towards one another (1 Peter 5:5)

Pray for one another (James 5:16)

Confess your faults to one another (James 5:16)

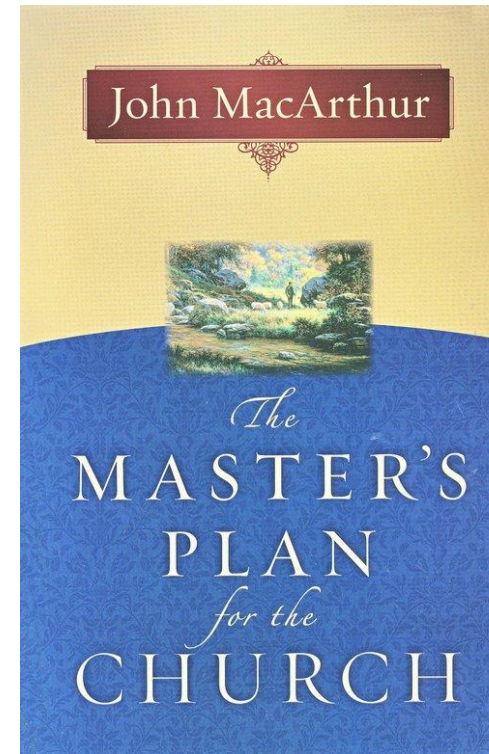
# The Anatomy of a Biblical Church

(based on John MacArthur's book "The Master's Plan for the Church")



## The Skeletal Structure

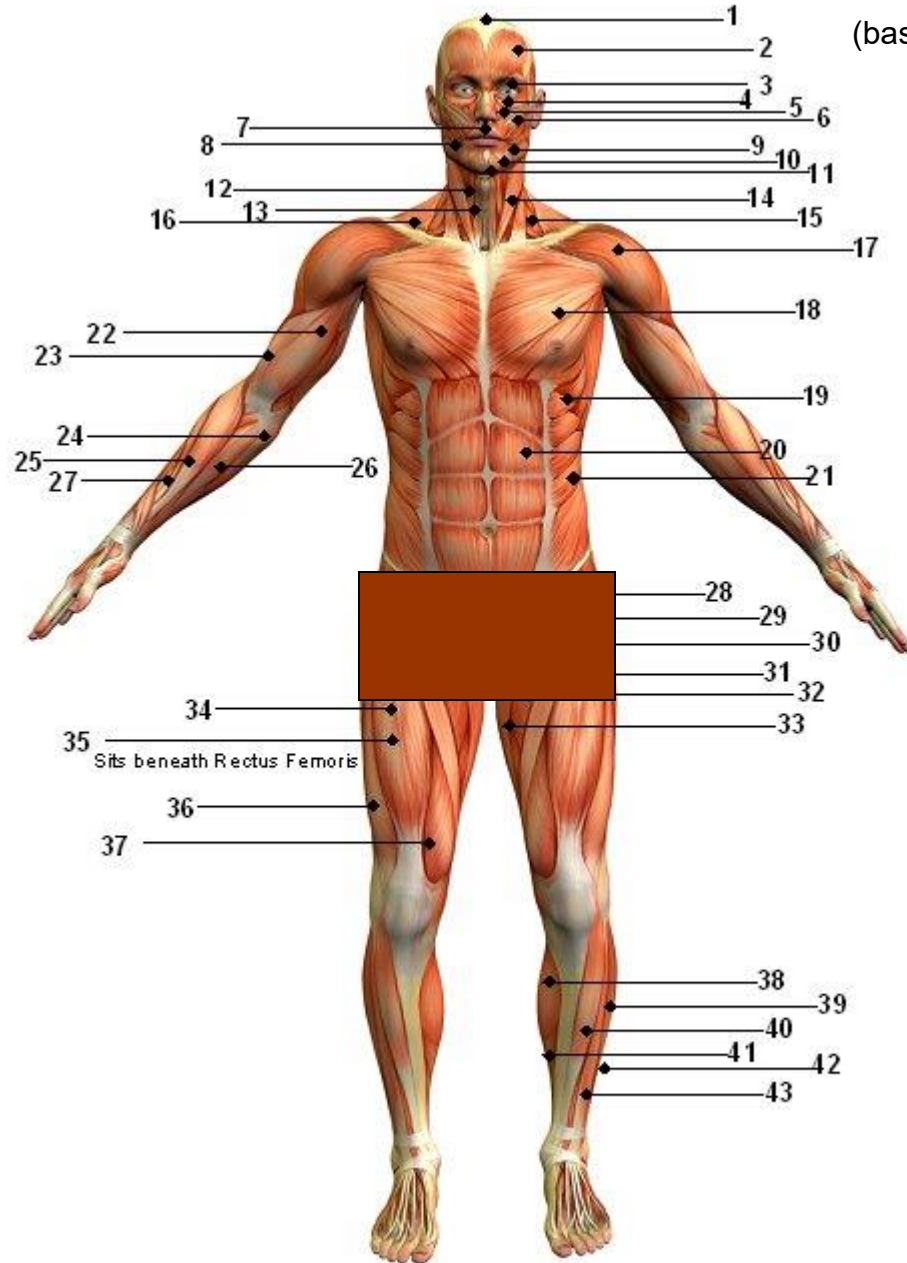
- A High View of God
- A High View of Scripture
- Sound Doctrine
- Personal Holiness
- Spiritual Authority





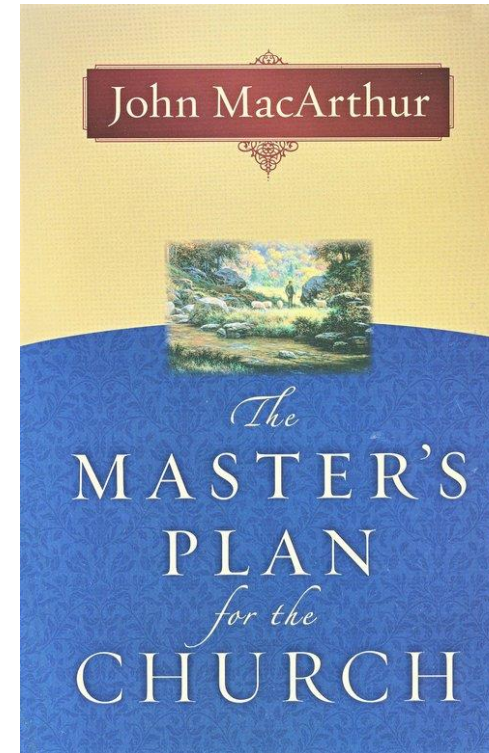
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## The Muscles

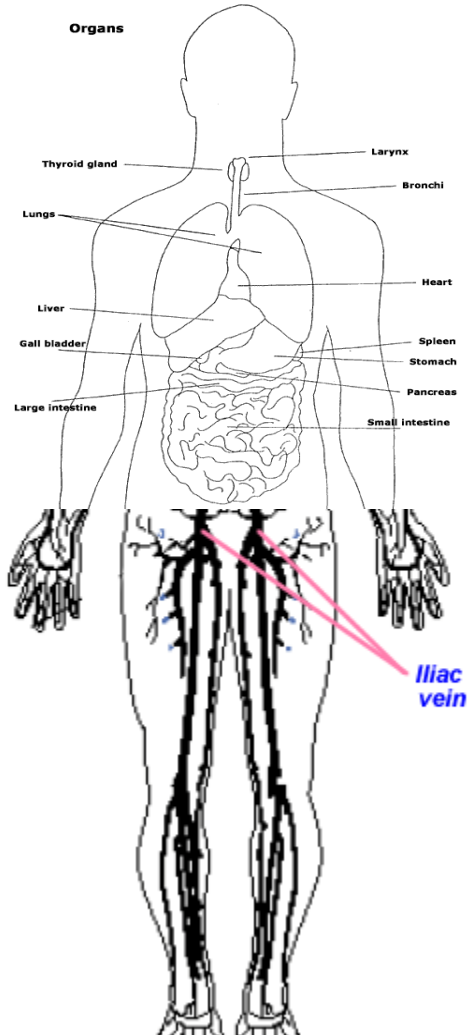
- Preaching/Teaching
- Evangelism/Missions
- Worship
- Prayer
- Discipleship
- Shepherding
- Building Up Families
- Training
- Giving
- Fellowship





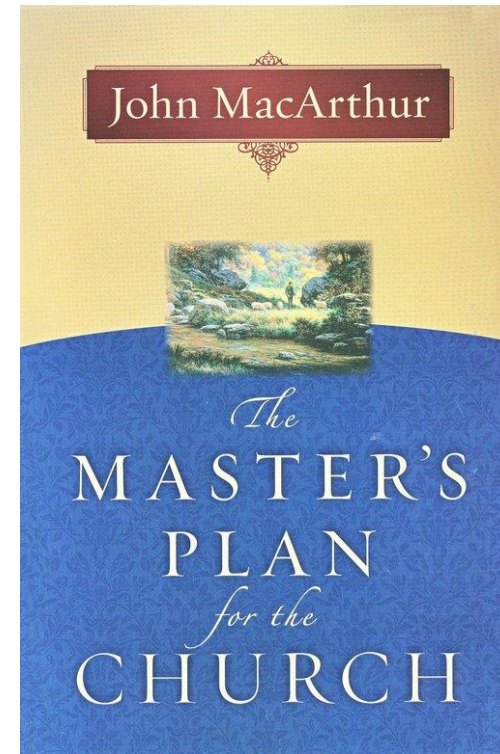
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## The Internal Systems

- Obedience
- Humility
- Love
- Unity
- Willingness to Serve
- Joy
- Peace
- Thankfulness
- Self-Discipline
- Accountability
- Forgiveness
- Dependence
- Flexibility
- Desire for Growth
- Faithfulness
- Hope



# The Anatomy of a Biblical Church

(based on John MacArthur's book "The Master's Plan for the Church")

## The Head



- Jesus Christ our Savior
- Jesus Christ our Shepherd
- Jesus Christ our Sovereign
- Jesus Christ our Sanctifier

# Why did God establish the church?

(Ephesians 1:22-23, 3:10-11, 3:21, 4:1-16, 5:23-32)

## (Ephesians = Ecclesiology (study of the church))

- God's Purpose for the Church – to be the pillar and support of the truth/gospel (1 Tim. 3:15)
- God's Plan/Will for the church – to be holy & blameless before Him in love (Eph. 1:4, 1 Tim 3:15)
- God's Mission for the church (5 E's)
  1. **Equip** /disciple His followers to **MATURITY** - towards EVERY GOOD WORK (Eph. 2:10, 4:12, 2 Tim. 3:17, Heb. 13:21)
  2. **Evangelize** the unbeliever to become true worshippers (1 Cor. 14:24-25)
  3. **Exclaim** /make known the wisdom of God (Eph. 3:10)
  4. **Evaluate** /Judge angels (1 Cor. 6:3).
  5. **Exonerate** /glorify God (Eph. 3:21)
- God's Future for the church – Rapture/Kingdom/Heaven  
(John 14:1-3, 1 Thess. 4:13-14, 5:9-10, 1 Cor. 15:51-59)



# Is church optional or essential?

- **God Commanded us to be faithful to a local church in Hebrews 10:23-25**  
<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; <sup>24</sup> and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
- **Those who truly belong to Christ belong to His church – His body** (1 Cor. 12:27, Eph. 1:22, 2:19, 3:6, 4:25, 5:23-30, Col. 1:18-24, 3:15)
- **The church is the bride of Christ (Eph. 5, Rev. 19)**  
What about those who claim to be believers but don't go to church?
- **A Sign of unbelief is leaving the fellowship of believers altogether (1 John 2:19)**
- **The H.S. guides us into truth and obedience,** – which will always lead towards (not away from) the preaching and teaching Biblical churches, including the practice of all the "one Anothers" commands (1 Tim. 4:12, John 21:15-17, Titus 2:15, 1 Peter 5:2-3, Acts 20:28)

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**Baptism** *Identification*

Therefore  
go and make disciples  
of all nations, baptizing them  
in the name of the Father and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching  
them to obey everything I have  
commanded you. And surely I am with  
you always, to the very end of  
the age."

Matthew 28:19-20

Teaching them to obey everything  
I have commanded you

**Obedience**  
*Sanctification*

Make disciples of all nations

**Gospel**  
*Justification*

I am with you always - to the end of the age

**Kingdom** *Glorification*



# The CHURCH is ESSENTIAL

Why is church so important?

- God knows we are weak by ourselves, but strong together (**Ecc. 4:9-10**). He has commanded us to meet each others needs (Rom. 12:13, 1 Tim. 5:16, 1 John 3:17), bear each others burdens (**Gal. 6:2, Col. 3:13**), spur/encourage each other on towards love and good deeds (**Heb. 10:24, 1 Thes. 5:11**), serve one another (**Gal. 5:13**), and to pray for on another (**James 5:16, Eph. 6:18**).
- Satan usually tempts and deceives us in isolation (Matthew 4) and vehemently sows deception (**John 8:44, 2 Cor. 11:14, 2 Thes. 2:9-10, Rev. 12:9-10**) disunity (**James 3:13-16**), and discouragement (**Mt. 13:39**) within the church because he is like a roaring lion (**1 Peter 5:8**)
- It is God's will that everyone be protected through submission to spiritual leadership (**Hebrews 13:17, Titus 1:5, Acts 14:23**)



# CONCLUSION:

The church is the bride of Christ and part of God's authority structure, body of fellowship, and mouthpiece of the gospel designed to give God glory. Through the church God nourishes us towards optimum spiritual health, protects us, and prepares us to enjoy eternity with him. God designed the church to be a body that truly loves and serves one another like he served and loved us so that we might have a healthy relationship with Him and one another. Thus, the body of Christ is the means for us to enjoy God's provision, protection, and proficiency of God's family and chain of command.

# The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

## 6. The Foundation of God's Word

(The Bible/Canon, revelation from God to measure truth from error, right from wrong, good from evil)

**Out of truth/doctrine flows life** – what we believe directs and determines how we live.

**Example of Paul:** his teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, and perseverance outflowed from His faith and knowledge of Scripture

**Example of Timothy:** His knowledge of the Scripture (sacred writings) that produced in him wisdom that led him to his salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

For all of us – the Bible (All Scripture) is

1. **Inspired/God Breathed** (lit. theopneustos means exhaled by God) and therefore because it is from God – profitable for:
    - a. Teaching
    - b. Rebuking
    - c. Correcting
    - d. Training in righteousness (right living)
- = **man of God**, adequate, equipped every good work

**2 Timothy 3:10-17** <sup>10</sup> Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, <sup>11</sup> persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. <sup>13</sup> But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, <sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.



# Verses on the Roles and Importance of the Bible/Scripture

(2 Timothy 3:10-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12, Romans 15:4, John 8:32, 17:17)

- **Jesus is The Word - John 1:1-5, 14** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. <sup>5</sup> The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **Jesus fulfilled the Word, will fulfill all the Word - Matthew 5:17-18** <sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.
- **The Word Saves - John 8:31-32** <sup>31</sup> So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
- **The Word Sanctifies - John 17:17** <sup>17</sup> "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
- **The Word teaches us and provides us Hope - Romans 15:4** <sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
- **The Word is the Revelation of God to us - Hebrews 1:1-3** God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, <sup>2</sup> in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. <sup>3</sup> And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- **The Word convicts and holds us accountable to God - Hebrews 4:12-13** <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.
- **The Word was written by God through inspired men – O.T. prophets, N.T. apostles - 2 Peter 1:19-21** <sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic word *made* more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.



## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 7. The Foundation of God's Shepherds (Preaching)

(1 Timothy 4:12-13, 5:20, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Titus 2:15)

Paul's emphatic commission/Pastoral charge to Timothy

**1. Preach the Word** when it's popular and when it's unpopular

Notice we are not to preach ourselves but the Word – specifically Christ Crucified (1 Cor. 1:23) and Jesus as Lord (2 Cor. 4:5) NOT self-help, self-improvement, not entertainment, not human wisdom, not human philosophy, not human psychology, not anecdotal stories, not political jargon, not feel good stories, and not positive thinking.

**2 Timothy 4:1-8** I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: <sup>2</sup> preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup> But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. <sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; <sup>8</sup> in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

## The 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

# 7. The Foundation of God's Shepherds (Preaching)

(1 Timothy 4:12-13, 5:20, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Titus 2:15)

- God's preachers and teachers **must be Biblically qualified according to 1 Tim. 3 and Titus 1** – NOT new believers, not good discussion leaders, not popular, rich, or successful men, not theological novices, nor unstudied men who don't know and practice Biblical hermeneutics, and not men who don't have the time to really exegete/extract the real meaning/interpretation of God's Word.

- Good/Biblical Pastors (Shepherds) not only mend, tend, fend, and send – but they also Love God, Love His Word, Love their families, Love their Sheep/God's family the Church, Love the lost – lead by example in evangelism, and overall set a good example for the flock/church – not perfectly but faithfully. So they are qualified, genuine, and also faithful, but also tough/spiritual fighters, not quitters, but speaking the oracles/words of God and serving with the strength God provides (1 Peter 4:11) so that they overall FULFILL THEIR GOD-GIVEN MINISTRY as they wait and long for Jesus' appearing.

(Pray as we look for such men to be our next youth Pastor and Calvert Campus Pastor)

**2 Timothy 4:1-8** I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: <sup>2</sup> preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup> But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. <sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; <sup>8</sup> in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

# 7 Foundations of a Biblical Church:

1. The Foundation of God's Glory (Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God alone) (1 Corinthians 3:4-15, Romans 11:36)
2. The Foundation of God's Son (Jesus our Cornerstone–100% Deity & Humanity)(Colossians 1:13-18,1 Peter 2:2-7)
3. The Foundation of God's Spirit (Prayer – Power, Perspective, Perseverance) (Colossians 1:9-12, 4:2)
4. The Foundation of God's Gospel (The Good News of Jesus Life, Death, & Resurrection = Righteousness, Forgiveness, & Eternal Life IF one is believing in Jesus through repentance, faith, and Lordship) (Acts 2:22-32, Romans 3:20-26)
5. The Foundation of God's Church (The Body & Bride of Christ – the pillar and support of the truth) (Acts 2:42-47, Ephesians 1:22-23, 3:10-11, 3:21, 4:1-16, 5:23-32)
6. The Foundation of God's Word (The Bible/Canon, revelation from God to measure truth from error, right from wrong, good from evil) (2 Timothy 3:10-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12, Romans 15:4, John 8:32, 17:17)
7. The Foundation of God's Shepherds (Preaching) (1 Timothy 4:12-13, 5:20, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Titus 2:15)



# Practical Application:

## So How Should a Christian choose a church?

What NOT to do... don't use the typical criteria that many/most Christians unknowingly and unbiblically follow: Do I like the Pastor, do I like the music, do I like the building, do I like the programs, do I like the people (I, I, I, I, I = consumer mentality, but rather pray Lord where do YOU want me, where can I and my family best serve YOU and grow in our faith for YOU, not my will but your will be done)

So LOOK for, TEST and EVALUATE a church on the following criteria:

**1. Truth/Doctrine** – which church is most in line with Scripture and best believes, teaches, and practices the Bible (High View of God/High View of Scripture). Practically the first thing you should do before visiting a church is read their doctrinal statement online or ask for a printed copy of their statement of faith (if they don't have their doctrine as the first thing on online or onsite – not good)

# How Should YOU choose a church?

So look for, test and evaluate a church on the following criteria:

**2. Philosophy of Ministry** – before joining a church ask to meet with one of the Pastors/Elders (if they are too busy to meet – not good) and ask them questions about their philosophy of ministry – what's the most important, what their priorities are, and how they go about pursuing/accomplishing them (that will tell you a lot of about them and the church). The priorities should be in line with Acts 2:42:

- **Doctrine** (Declaring God's truth by preaching through books of the Bible learn and live the whole counsel of God's will)
- **Worship** (Presenting ourselves before God with sincere hearts to gratefully and passionately glorify the One true Triune God)
- **Fellowship** (Practicing of the One Anothers with Selfless Love, Compassion, Kindness, Service to others)
- **Prayer** (Seeking earnestly and regularly God's Power, Perspective, Perseverance in our lives & ministry)
- **Gospel** (Sharing God's Gracious Plan of salvation with concern for the Eternity of all people by faithful and fruitful evangelism)

# How Should YOU choose a church?

So look for, test and evaluate a church on the following criteria:

## **3. Personal Example/Biblical Qualifications** of the Elders and Deacons.

Also ask them about their personal relationship/walk with the Lord - what I call the Big 5:

1. Their relationship with God (devotional life)
2. Their relationship with their spouse (married life)
3. Their relationship with their children (family life)
4. Their relationship with their sheep/people (church life)
5. Their relationship with the lost (evangelism life)

(If they don't have a healthy/vibrant relationship with God neither will the church...if they don't Biblically lead/manage their own homes well they won't manage the church any better). The spiritual health of the church will usually resemble the health of the Pastor and his family unless the church is apathetic and rebellious against his preaching/example.

1 Timothy 3:5 <sup>5</sup> (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?)



# How Should YOU choose a church?

So look for, test and evaluate a church on the following criteria:

## 4. Holy Living/Progressive Sanctification and Obedience of the Congregation

Do you see in the church as a whole...

1. The People regularly **WITNESSING** /sharing their faith, evangelizing the lost (new people being saved, baptized, and added to the church – spiritual multiplication/reproduction - Acts 1:8, 2:41,47 5:14, 6:1,7, 9:31, 12:24, 16:5, 19:20)
2. The People regularly **PRAYING** for the lost, praying for each other, seeking God's will - His power, His perspective, His perseverance – Acts 1:14, 2:42, 6:4)
3. The People regularly **FELLOWSHIPPING**, practicing the one anothers, and enjoying their closest friendships within the church – Acts 2:42, Hebrews 13:16.
4. The People regularly **STUDYING** and growing in their knowledge and practice of the Holy Scriptures privately (personal devotions) and corporately (Congregation, Class, Cell, Comrade, and Christian settings) (Goal to learn and live out the truth of God's Word – Acts 6:4, 2 Peter 3:18).
5. The People progressively **OBEYING** the commands of Jesus in the N.T. (Acts 5:29, Mt. 28:18-20) so that others can see a growing Christlikeness/holiness/difference in their marriage, family, conduct at work, service/contribution within the church, and outreach/Christian witness to the unsaved world around them. (Goal to be rounding the bases – 1<sup>st</sup> base/conversion, 2<sup>nd</sup> base/baptism, 3<sup>rd</sup> base/membership & maturity, Home base – death, rapture, Kingdom, Heaven)

# How Should YOU choose a church?

So look for, test and evaluate a church on the following criteria:

## 5. Their overall goals, motives, and mission statement

(how do they define success, who are they trying to please, who are what are they striving for)

Do you see in the church as a whole...

1. A Focus on man vs a focus on God
2. A Focus on money vs Christian maturity
3. A Focus on buildings/facilities vs the true temples (people's souls that last forever)
4. A Focus on success by what man sees/thinks/wants (numbers, buildings, programs, popularity, influence) vs what God sees/thinks/wills (new people saved, new people baptized, new people disciplined/equipped towards Christlike maturity)
5. A Focus on the Culture vs a Focus on Scripture
6. A Focus on the Temporary vs a Focus on the Kingdom/Eternity
7. A Focus on Self vs a focus on the Savior

# SO WHAT?

## Application



### 1 Timothy 3:15-16

*I write* so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the **church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.** <sup>16</sup> By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.



# Born to Reproduce

*Lawson Trotman*



*“A Passionate Call to Maturity, Spiritual Reproduction and Spiritual Parenting  
to Help Fulfill The Great Commission”*

**A Navigator Seminar**  
*Prepared by Jim Downing*





*A message given by Dawson Trotman in 1955*

# Introduction

Hundreds of thousands have been challenged and many lives changed by hearing the audio and reading the printed versions of *Born to Reproduce*. I believe every Christian on earth should experience the impact of this message from the heart of God. Following is a suggested format for a half-day training seminar using *Born to Reproduce*:

- **Listening Session** (47 min) - Individuals or groups [listen](#) to the recorded message.
- *Break* (15 min)
- **Reading Session** (30 min) - Read the following edited transcript of *Born to Reproduce*.
- *Break* (15 min)
- **Application Session** (60 min) - Write down and discuss answers to questions provided.

Half a century has passed since the Lord took Dawson Trotman to be with Himself. The millions impacted by the Navigators of the past and present are living and lasting monuments to his life and ministry.

## A 5,700 Word, 47 Minute Summary of the Issues Which Burned Deeply in Trotman's Soul

Of the many words he spoke and wrote, the 5700 word, 47 minute message he gave to a Conference sponsored by Back to the Bible during the closing months of his life is most widely known, read, heard, and quoted. The message contains the subjects Dawson Trotman felt most strongly about.

As George Washington's Farewell Address and Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address summarize the philosophy and convictions by which they were driven, Skip Gray, LeRoy Eims, and others who heard the original delivery, agree it was his finest verbal packaging of the principles for which he lived and labored.

It was not typical of Dawson to give a title to his message but the hearer was left without any doubt as to the subject matter presented. The publishers of the transcribed recording entitled it: *Born to Reproduce*, and edited out some names and illustrations.

The paragraph headings in the published edition have helped many understand the content but in my judgment do not adequately highlight the points Trotman was making.

In the message he used the words *produce*, *reproduce*, and *reproducing* 11 times and *multiply* 7 times. *Maturity* is mentioned 6 times and *immaturity* 3 times. He used the words *spiritual parent* twice and *spiritual parenting* once.

*Follow-up* is mentioned only twice although the concept makes up one a fifth of his message. This term came into widespread use in the Christian vocabulary with the Billy Graham era. Dawson seemed more comfortable with the more intimate family terms he had been using for twenty years like nurture, and parenting, spiritual children etc.

Surprisingly he did not use the words EVANGELIZE or DISCIPLE<sup>1</sup> nor did he refer to II TIMOTHY 2:2. He did not use the words GENERATION or GENERATIONS but illustrated the concept very

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<sup>1</sup> In the late 1950s Lorne Sanny coined the word "disciplemaker." It was soon to become a standard word in the Christian workers vocabulary and the use of the word disciple was accelerated. Lorne reasoned if disciples were to be **made** there, of necessity, had to be **disciple makers**.



forcibly. He seemed to be more inclined to the familial concept of parents, grandparents, and great grandparents rather than the teacher-pupil relationship of II Timothy 2:2 or the non-spiritual family member term, disciple.

Approximately 20 percent of his message dealt with FOLLOW-UP, 18 percent on why Christians do not reproduce, 12 percent on the parallel between physical and spiritual reproduction and multiplication, 12 percent on the devotional life, and 10 percent on Scripture Memory.

The key to the title he might have given the message are the points he argued most forcibly:

1. "Remember, nothing under heaven except *sin, immaturity, and lack of communion* will put you in a position where you cannot reproduce."
2. "But when all things are right between you and the Lord, regardless of how much or how little you know intellectually, from the standpoint of the world, *you can be a spiritual parent* And that incidentally, may be when you are very young in the Lord."
3. "The Gospel spread to the known world during the first century without radio, television, or the printing press, because these produced men who were reproducing."

Anyone can listen to, or download, this message at [DiscipleshipLibrary.com](http://DiscipleshipLibrary.com). One would only be fully impacted by the message if they heard it in person or on video tape and could see his body language as well as hear the emotional fire and conviction with which he delivered it. The printed version cannot duplicate both the sight and sound effect accompanying his delivery of the message to the emotions, but can be the more important eye gate as a channel to funnel these truths into the intellect and will.

In his book, *The Navigator*, author Robert Foster said, "One of the men closest to Dawson throughout his entire adult life was Jim Downing."<sup>2</sup>

I did know him very well and, although I received many more exhortations from him than I gave, he was always open to suggestions which would make any production nearer his standard of excellence.

If Dawson had asked me to edit the printed version of this message given at the Back to the Bible Conference, I would have suggested the following title:

***"A Passionate Call to Maturity, Spiritual Reproduction and  
Spiritual Parenting to Help Fulfill The Great Commission"***

Without leaving out any of his words in the transcribed version, I would have suggested he group his topics under 12 main headings and 19 sub headings, add some definitions, and make a list of questions for discussion.

In His Grace,

*Jim Downing*

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<sup>2</sup> The Navigator, Robert Foster, Page 148.

# BORN TO REPRODUCE

*Lawson Trotman*

## The Parallel Between Physical and Spiritual Reproduction and Multiplication

A few years ago, while visiting Edinburgh, Scotland, I stood on High street just down from the castle. As I stood there, I saw a father and mother coming toward me pushing a baby carriage. They looked very happy, were well dressed and apparently were well-to-do. I tried to catch a glimpse of the baby as they passed and, seeing my interest, they stopped to let me look at the little, pink-cheeked member of their family. I watched them for a little while as they walked on and thought how beautiful it is that God permits a man to choose one woman who seems the most beautiful and lovely to him, and she chooses him out of all the men whom she has ever known. Then they separate themselves to one another, and God in His plan gives them the means of reproduction! It is a wonderful thing that a little child should be born into their family, having some of the father's characteristics and some of the mother's, some of his looks and some of hers. Each sees in that baby a reflection of the one whom he or she loves.

Seeing that little one made me feel homesick for my own children whom I dearly love and whose faces I had not seen for some time. As I continued to stand there I saw another baby carriage or perambulator as they call it over there. Coming in my direction, it was a secondhand affair and very wobbly. Obviously the father and mother were poor. Both were dressed poorly and plainly, but when I indicated my interest in seeing their baby, they stopped and with the same pride as the other parents let me view their little, pink-cheeked, beautiful-eyed child.

I thought as these went on their way, 'God gave this little baby whose parents are poor everything that He gave the other. It has five little fingers on each hand, a little mouth and two eyes. Properly cared for, those little hands may someday be the hands of an artist or a musician. Then this other thought came to me. "Isn't it wonderful that God did not select the wealthy and the educated and say, 'You can have children,' and to the poor and the uneducated say, you cannot." Everyone on earth has that privilege.

The first order ever given to man was that he "be fruitful and multiply." In other words, he was to reproduce after his own kind. God did not tell Adam and Eve, our first parents, to be spiritual. They were already in His image. Sin had not yet come in. He just said, 'Multiply. I want more just like you, more in my own image.

Of course, the image was marred. But Adam and Eve had children. They began to multiply. There came a time, however, when God had to destroy most of the flesh that had been born. He started over with eight people. The more than two billion people who are on the earth today came from the eight who were in the ark because they were fruitful and multiplied.

In the physical realm when your children have children, you become a grandparent. Your parents are then great-grandparents, and theirs are great-great- grandparents. ***And so it should be in the spiritual.***

A person is born again when he receives Jesus Christ. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God. Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12,13) - the new birth. It is God's plan that these new babes in Christ grow. All provision is made for their growth into maturity, and then they are to multiply - not only the rich or the educated, but all alike. ***Every person who is born into God's family is to multiply.***

Sole winners are not soulwinners, because of what they know, but because of the Person they know, how well they know Him, and how much they long for others to know Him.

Only a few things will ever keep human beings from multiplying themselves in the physical realm. One is that they never marry. If they are not united, they will not reproduce. This is a truth which Christians need to grasp with

reference to spiritual reproduction. When a person becomes a child of God, he should realize that he is to live in union with Jesus Christ if he is going to win others to the Saviour.

One other thing that can keep people from having children is immaturity. God in His wisdom saw to it that little children cannot have babies. A little boy must first grow to sufficient maturity to be able to earn a living, and a little girl must be old enough to care for a baby.

### **The Damascus Road-Like Experience Which Revealed That Follow Up Of A New Christian Is Mandatory, Not Optional**

One day years ago. I was driving along in my little Model-T Ford and saw a young man walking down the Street. I stopped and picked him up. As he got into the car, he swore and said, 'it's sure tough to get a ride.'

I never hear a man take my Saviour's name in vain but what my heart aches. I reached into my pocket for a tract and said, "Lad, read this."

He looked up at me and said. "Haven't I seen you somewhere before?"

I looked at him closely. He looked like someone I should know. We figured out that we had met the year before on the same road. He was on his way to a golf course to caddy when I picked him up. He had gotten into my car and had started out the same way with the name "Jesus Christ. I had taken exception to his use of that name and had opened up the New Testament and shown him the way of salvation. He had accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour. In parting I had given him Philippians 1:6, "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." God bless you, son. Read this," I said, and sped on my merry way.

A year later, there was no more evidence of the new birth and the new creature in this boy than if he had never heard of Jesus Christ.

I had a great passion to win souls and that was my great passion. But after I met this boy the second time on the way to the golf course, I began to go back and find some of my "converts." I want to tell you, I was sick at heart. It seemed that Philippians 1:6 was not working.

This emphasis on finding and helping some of the converts went on for a couple or three years before the Navigator work started. By that time our work included fewer converts but more time spent with the converts. Soon I could say as Paul said to the Philippians, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-5). He followed up his converts with daily prayer and fellowship. Then he could say, ' Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ' (Philippians 1:6). In keeping with this the 7th verse reads: "Even as it is meet (or proper) for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart."

Before I had forgotten to follow up the people God had reached through me. But from then on I began to spend time helping them. That is why sometime later when that first sailor came to me, I saw the value of spending three months with him. I saw an Isaac in him. Isaac had Jacob, and Jacob had the twelve, and all the rest of the nation came through them.

### **Follow Up Is More Than Committing The New Christian To The Lord**

An Armenian boy came into my office one day and told me about all the souls he had won. He said that they were all Armenians and had the list to prove it.

I said, "Well, what is this one doing'?"



He said, "That one isn't doing so good. He is backslidden."

"What about this one?" We went all down the list and there was not one living a victorious life.

I said, "Give me your Bible." I turned to Philippians and put a cardboard right under the 6th verse, took a razor blade out of my pocket and started to come down on the page. He grabbed my hand and asked, "What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to cut this verse out," I said. "It isn't working." Do you know what was wrong? I had been taking the 6th verse away from its context, verses 28 3 through 7. Paul was not just saying, "All right, the Lord has started something, He will finish it." But you know, that is what some people tell me when they win a soul. They say, "Well, I just committed him to God."

Suppose I meet someone who has a large family and say to him, "Who is taking care of your children?" "My family? Oh, I left them with the Lord."

Right away I would say to that one, "I have a verse for you, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he ... is worse than an infidel" (I Timothy 5:8)

Paul aid to the elders of the church at Ephesus: "Take heed ... to all the flock, over the which the Lord has made overseers ..." (Acts 20:28).

*You cannot make God the overseer. He makes you the overseer.*

### **Because He Was Majoring In Helping New Christians Grow, Billy Graham Provided An Opportunity To Help Tens Of Thousands Worldwide**

Five years ago Billy Graham came to me and said, 'Daws, we would like you to help with our follow-up. I've been studying the great evangelists and the great revivals and I fail to see that there was much of a follow-up program. We need it. We are having an average of 6,000 people come forward to decide for Christ in a month's campaign. I feel that with the work you have done you could come in and help us.'

I said, "Billy, I can't follow up 6,000 people. My work is always with individuals and small groups.

"Look, Daws," he answered, 'everywhere I go I meet Navigators. I met them in school in Wheaton. They are in my school right now. (He was president of Northwestern Schools at that time.) There must be something to this.'

"I just don't have the time," I said.

He tackled me again. The third time he pled with me and said, "Daws, I am not able to sleep nights for thinking of what happens to the converts after a crusade is over."

At that time I was on my way to Formosa and I said, "While I am there I will pray about it, Billy." On the sands of a Formosan beach I paced up and down two or three hours a day praying, "Lord, how can I do this? I am not even getting the work done You have given me to do. How can I take six months of the year to give to Billy?"

But God laid the burden upon my heart.

Why should Billy have asked me to do it? I had said to him that day before I left for Formosa, "Billy, you will have to get somebody else."

He took me by the shoulders and said, "*Who else? Who is majoring in this?*"

I had been majoring in it.

## **Biblical Emphasis On Follow Up**

When a soul is born, give it the care that Paul gave new believers. Paul believed in follow-up work. He was a busy evangelist, but he took time for follow-up. The New Testament is largely made up of the letters of Paul which were follow-up letters to the converts.

James believed in it. "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only," he said in James 1:22. Peter believed in it. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2). John believed in it, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (Ill John 4). All the writings of Peter, Paul, James and most of John's are food for the new Christian.

## **The Potential Of An Unbroken Chain Of Reproducing Christians**

"Oh, I find time to serve the Lord. I am preaching here and there." But down behind all of this he has the one desire to be a spiritual father. He is praying that God will give him a man to teach. It may take six months. It need not take that long, but maybe it takes him six months to get him.

So this first man at the end of six months has another man. Each man starts teaching another in the following six months. At the end of the year, there are just four of them. Perhaps each one teaches a Bible class or helps in a street meeting, but at the same time his main interest is in his man and how he is doing. So at the end of the years the four of them get together and have a prayer meeting and determine, "Now, let's not allow anything to sidetrack us. Let's give the Gospel out to a lot of people, but let's check up on at least one man and see him through."

So the four of them in the next six months each get a man. That makes eight at the end of a year and a half. They all go out after another and at the end of two years there are 16 men. At the end of three years there are 64; the 16 have doubled twice. At the end of five years there are 1,024. At the end of fifteen and a half years there are approximately 2,147,500,000. That is the present population of the world of persons over three years of age.

But wait a minute! Suppose that after the first man, A, helps B and B is ready to get his man while A starts helping another, B is sidetracked, washes out and does not produce his first man. Fifteen and one-half years later you can cut your 2,147,500,000 down to 1,073,750,000 because the devil caused B to be sterile.

A young lady works at the telephone desk in our office in Colorado Springs. A year and a half ago she was associated with the young Communist league in Great Britain. She heard Billy Graham and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ. Soon she and a couple other girls in her art and drama school were used of the Lord to win some girls to Christ. We taught Pat and some of the other girls and they too are training their friends. Patricia is a great grandmother already, though she is only about a year and four months old in the Lord.

We see this all the time. I know a sailor who, when he was only four months old in the Lord, was a great-grandfather. He had led some sailors to the Lord who in turn led other sailors to the Lord, and these last led still other sailors to the Lord—yet he was only four months old.

How was this done? God used the pure channel of these young Christians' lives in their exuberance and first love for Christ, and out of their hearts the incorruptible seed of the Word of God was sown in the hearts of other people. It took hold. Faith came by the hearing of the Word. They were born again by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They observed those Christians who led them to Christ and shared in the joy, the peace and the thrill of it all. And in their joy, they wanted someone else to know.

## **Follow Up For A New Or Dormant Christian Requires A Spiritual Parent**

Furthermore, there is not anything under heaven that can keep a newly born again one from going on with the Lord *if he has a spiritual parent* to take care of him and give him the spiritual food God has provided for his normal growth.

But when all things are right between you and the Lord, regardless of how much or how little you may know intellectually from the standpoint of the world, *you can be a spiritual parent*. And that, incidentally, may be when you are very young in the Lord.

### **An Example Of Spiritual Parenting**

Twenty-three years ago we took a born-again sailor and spent some time with him, showing him how to reproduce spiritually after his kind. It took time, lots of time. It was not a hurried, 30-minute challenge in a church service and a hasty good-bye with an invitation to come back next week. We spent time together. We took care of his problems and taught him not only to hear God's Word and to read it, but also how to study it. We taught him how to fill the quiver of his heart with the arrows of God's Word, so that the Spirit of God could lift an arrow from his heart and place it to the bow of his lips and pierce a heart for Christ.

He found a number of boys on his ship, but none of them would go all out for the Lord. They would go to church, but when it came right down to doing something, they were "also rans." He came to me after a month of this and said, "Dawson, I can't get any of these guys on the ship to get down to business."

I said to him, "Listen, you ask God to give you one. You can't have two until you have one. Ask God to give you a man after your own heart."

He began to pray. One day he came to me and said, "I think I've found him." Later he brought the young fellow over. Three months from the time that I started to work with him, he had found a man of like heart. This first sailor was not the kind of man you had to push and give prizes to before he would do something. He loved the Lord and was willing to pay a price to produce. He worked with this new babe in Christ, and those two fellows began to grow and spiritually reproduce. On that ship 125 men found the Saviour before it was sunk at Pearl Harbor. Men off that first battleship are in four continents of the world as missionaries today. It was necessary to make a start, however. The devil's great trick is to stop anything like this if he can before it gets started. He will stop you, too, if you let him.

God promised Abraham ". . . "in Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Genesis 21:12), so Abraham waited a long, long time for that son. God's promise to make Abraham the father of many nations were all wrapped up in that one son, Isaac. If Hitler had been present and had caused Isaac's death when Abraham had his knife poised over him on Mount Moriah, Hitler could have killed every Jew in that one stroke.

You can lead a soul to Christ in from 20 minutes to a couple of hours. But it takes from 20 weeks to a couple of years to get him on the road to maturity, victorious over the sins and the recurring problems that come along. He must learn how to make right decisions. He must be warned of the various "isms" that are likely to reach out with their octopus arms and pull him in and sidetrack him. But when you get yourself a man, you have doubled your ministry—in fact, you have more than doubled your ministry. Do you know why? When you teach your man, he sees how it is done and he imitates you.

### **A Personal Regular Devotional Life Is Essential To A Victorious And Fruitful Life**

Some time ago I talked to 29 missionary candidates. They were graduates of universities or Bible Schools or Seminaries. As a member of the board I interviewed each one over a period of five days, giving each candidate from half an hour to an hour.

Among the questions I asked were two which are very important. The first one had to do with their devotional life. "How is your devotional life?" I asked them. "How is the time you spend with the Lord? Do you feel that your devotional life is what the Lord would have it to be?"

Out of this particular group of 29 only one person said, "I believe my devotional life is what it ought to be." To the others my question then was, "Why is your devotional life not what it should be?"



“Well, you see, I am here at this summer institute,” was a common reply. “We have a concentrated course. We do a year’s work in only ten weeks. We are so busy.”

I said, “All right. Let’s back up to when you were in college. Did you have victory in your devotional life then?”

“Well, not exactly.”

The other question I asked them was. “You are going out to the foreign field. You hope to be used by the Lord in winning men and women to Christ. Is that right?”

“Yes.”

‘You want them to go on and live the victorious life, don’t you? You don’t want them just to make a decision and then go back into the world, do you?’”

Then may I ask you something more? How many persons do you know by name today who were won to Christ by you and are living for Him?”

The majority had to admit that they were ready to cross an ocean and learn a foreign language. but they had not won their first soul who was going on with Jesus Christ. A number of them said that they got many people to go to church; others said they had persuaded some to go forward when the invitation was given.

I asked, ‘Are they living for Christ now?’”

Their eyes dropped. I then continued, “How do you expect that by crossing an ocean and speaking in a foreign language with people who are suspicious of you, whose way of life is unfamiliar, you will be able to do there what you have not yet done here?”

We traced back and found that never since they came to know the Saviour had they had a period of victory in their devotional lives. That was one of the reasons for their sterility—lack of communion with Christ.

***These questions do not apply to missionaries and prospective missionaries only. They apply to all of God’s people. Every one of His children ought to be a reproducer.***

### **Scripture Memory Is An Essential Resource For Growth And Outreach**

“Load your heart with this precious Seed. You will find that God will direct you to those whom you can lead to Christ. There are many hearts ready for the Gospel now”.

Until several years after we were married, my wife’s father did not know the Lord. Here again God used children to reach a hungry heart. When Ruthie was three and Bruce was five, they went to visit Grandpa and Grandma. Grandpa tried to get them to repeat nursery rhymes. He said, “Mary had a little lamb” and “Little Boy Blue,” but the children just looked at him and asked, “Who is Little Boy Blue?” He thought they did not know very much.

Their mother said, “They know some things. Quote Romans 3:23, Bruce.” This Bruce did. Then he asked, “Shall I quote another one, Grandpa?”

“Sure,” said Grandpa.

Bruce began to quote verses of Scripture, some 15 in all, and Ruth quoted some in between. This delighted Grandpa. He took them over to the neighbors and to the aunts and uncles, showing them how well these children knew the Scriptures. In the meantime the Word of God was doing its work. It was not long before the Holy Spirit, through the voices of babes, planted the seed in his heart. ‘Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength (Psalm 8:2).

It used to be the plan of the Navigators in the early days that whenever the sailors were with us for supper each fellow was asked at the end of the meal to quote a verse.

I would say it this way, "Quote a verse you have learned in the last 48 hours if you have one.

Otherwise just give us a verse. One evening as we quoted verses around the table, my little three year old daughters turn came. There was a new sailor next to her who did not think about her quoting Scripture, so without giving her an opportunity, he began She looked up at him as much as to say, I am a human being, then she quoted John 3:16 in her own way, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only forgotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. She put the emphasis on "whosoever" because when she was first taught the verse she could not pronounce that word.

Days later that sailor came over and said to me, "You know I was going to quote that verse of Scripture. It was the only one I knew. But I didn't really know it, not until little Ruthie quoted it. When she said whosoever, I thought, that means me. Back on the ship I accepted the Lord. Today that young man is a missionary in South America.

*Every one of us, no matter what age we are, should get busy memorizing Scripture. In one Sunday school class a woman 72 years of age and another who was 78 finished The Navigators Topical Memory System. They then had something to give.*

### **Five Reasons Christians Do Not Reproduce**

**(1) Sin: Overt - Covert – Un-confessed** - Another factor that can hinder reproduction is disease or impairment to some part of the body that is needed for reproductive purposes. In the spiritual realm sin is the disease that can keep one from winning the lost.

Are you producing? If not, why not? Is it because of a lack of communion with Christ your Lord? Remember, "Nothing under heaven except sin, immaturity and lack of communion will put you in a position where you cannot reproduce.

Wherever you find a Christian who is not leading men and women to Christ, something is wrong. He may still be a babe. I do not mean that he does not know a lot of doctrine and is not well informed through hearing good preaching. I know many people who can argue the Pre-, the post- and the Ah-millennial position and who know much about dispensations, but who are still immature. Paul said of some such in Corinth, "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual (or mature), but as unto carnal, even as unto babes (I Corinthians 3:1).

Are you producing? If not, why not? Is it because of a lack of communion with Christ, your Lord, that closeness of fellowship which is part of the great plan? Or is it some sin in your life, an unconfessed something, that has stopped the flow? Or is it that you are still a babe? "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teaches you again." (Hebrews 5:12).

Because they were babes, they were immature, incapable of spiritual reproduction. In other words, they could not help other people to be born again. Paul continued, "I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it . . . ye are yet carnal (or babes): for . . . there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions (I Corinthians 3:2, 3).

I know a lot of church members, Sunday school teachers and members of the women's missionary society who will say to each other, "Have you heard about so and so?" and pass along some gossip. Such have done an abominable thing in the sight of God. How horrible it is when a Christian hears something and spreads the story!

The Book says, "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him . . . a lying tongue . . ." (Proverbs 6:16,17). Oh, the Christians I know, both men and women, who let lying, come in! "... he that soweth discord among brethren" (Proverbs 6:19) is another. This is walking as a babe, and I believe that it is one of the basic reasons why some Christians do not have people born again into God's family through them. They are sick

spiritually. There is something wrong. There is a spiritual disease in their lives. They are immature. There is not that union with Christ.

**(2) Fear Of Man** - “Oh, but I am afraid.” someone says. Remember, “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe” (Proverbs 29:25).

**(3) Lack Of A Spiritual Purpose In Life** - There are Christians whose lives run in circles who, nevertheless, have the desire to be spiritual parents. Take a typical example. You meet him in the morning as he goes to work and say to him:

*“Why are you going to work?”*

“Well, I have to earn money.

*“What are you earning money for?” you ask.*

“Well,” he replies. “I have to buy food.”

*“What do you want food for?”*

“I have to eat so as to have strength to go to work and earn some more money.

*“What do you want more money for?”*

“I have to buy clothes so that I can be dressed to go to work and earn some more money.

*“What do you want more money for?”*

“I have to buy a house or pay the rent so I will have a place to rest up, so I will be fit to work and earn some more money.”

And so it goes. There are many Christians like that who are going in big circles. **But you continue your questioning and ask, “What else do you do?”**

**(4) Busyness** - I believe that is why Satan puts all his efforts into getting the Christian busy, busy, busy, but not producing.

There is a story in I Kings, chapter 20 about a man who gave a prisoner to a servant and instructed the servant to guard the prisoner well. But as the servant was busy here and there the prisoner made his escape.

The curse of today is that we are too busy. I am not talking about being busy earning money to buy food. I am talking about being busy doing Christian things. We have spiritual activity with little productivity. And productivity comes as a result of what we call “follow-up.”

**(5) Christians Do Important Jobs But Not The Most Important** - In every Christian audience, I am sure there are men and women who have been Christians for five, ten or twenty years but who do not know of one person who is living for Jesus Christ today because of them. I am not talking now about merely working for Christ, but about producing for Christ. Someone may say, I gave out a hundred thousand tracts.” That is good, but how many sheep did you bring in?

But today we have a lot of pew-sitters- —people think that if they are faithful in church attendance, put good-sized gifts into the offering plate and get people to come, they have done their part.

If I were the minister of a church and had deacons or elders to pass the plate and choir members to sing, I would say, ‘thank God for your help. We need you. Praise the Lord for these extra things that you do,’ but I would keep pressing home the big job—” Be fruitful and multiply.” All these other things are incidental to the supreme task of winning a man or woman to Jesus Christ and then helping him or her to go on.



## Summary

Everyone should be born again. That is God's desire. God never intended that man should merely live and die and be a walking corpse to be laid in the ground. The vast majority of people know that there is something beyond the grave, *and so each one who is born into God's family should seek others to be born again.*

## Exhortations

- Effects obey their causes by irresistible laws. When you sow the seed of God's Word you will get results. Not every heart will receive the Word but some will and the new birth will take place.
- Men, where is your man? Women, where is your woman? Where is the one whom you led to Christ and who is now going on with Him.
- Where is your man? Where is your woman? Do you have one? You can ask God for one. Search your hearts. Ask the Lord, "Am I spiritually sterile? If I am, why am I?"
- Where is your man? Where is your woman? Where is your boy? Where is your girl?
- What will it take to jar us out of our complacency and send us home to pray, "God, give me a girl or man whom I can win to Christ, or let me take one who is already won, an infant in Christ, and try to train that one so that he or she will reproduce!"

## Post Script - *Powerful Statements Which Challenge And Pierce The Heart*

- How thrilled we are to see the masses fill up the seats! But where is your man? I would rather have one 'Isaac' alive than a hundred dead, or sterile, or immature.
- The reason that we are not getting this Gospel to the ends of the earth is not because it is not potent enough.
- Soul winners are not sole winners, because of what they know, but because of the Person they know, how well they know Him, and how much they long for others to know Him.
- Load your heart with this precious Seed. You will find that God will direct you to those whom you can lead to Christ. There are many hearts ready for the Gospel now.
- Remember, nothing under heaven except sin, immaturity, and lack of communion will put you in a position where you cannot reproduce.
- You cannot make God the overseer. He makes you the overseer.

- Furthermore, there is nothing under heaven that can keep a newly born again one from going on with the Lord if he has a *spiritual parent* to take care of him and give him the spiritual food God has provided for his normal growth.
- But when all things are right between you and the Lord,, regardless of how much or how little you know intellectually, from the stand point of the world, *you can be a spiritual parent*. And that, incidentally, may be when you are very young in the Lord.
- The Gospel spread to the known world during the first century without radio, television or the printing press, because these produced men who were *reproducing*.

### **Definitions**

***Producing*** - Spiritual work done in leading another to Christ or following up a new or needy Christian.

***Reproduce*** - Reproduce yourself spiritually by leading another to Christ.

***Reproducer*** - One who has led another to Christ.

***Multiply***<sup>3</sup> - This occurs when someone's spiritual child leads another to Christ.

***Spiritual parenting*** - Taking care of a new or needy Christian and giving him/her the spiritual food God has provided for normal growth.<sup>4</sup>

***Generations*** - This is synonymous with having spiritual children, grandchildren, great, grand children and great, great, grandchildren etc.

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<sup>3</sup> The difference between multiply and reproduce is barely distinguishable.

<sup>4</sup> On pages 4 and 5 of the transcribed message, Trotman tells some of the things he did in parenting Lester Spencer.

# Born to Reproduce

## *Discussion Questions*

**Application Session** - Write down and discuss answers to the following questions:

1. How did Trotman illustrate the comparison between physical and spiritual reproduction and multiplication?

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2. What experience convinced him that follow up of a new Christian is essential?

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3. What was Trotman illustrating in recounting his conversation with the Armenian boy?

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4. Why did Billy Graham choose Dawson Trotman to help him with following up new converts?

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5. What does the New Testament teach about Follow Up?

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6. What is the potential of an unbroken chain of reproducers?

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7. What is a spiritual parent, and what does he/she do?

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8. How did Trotman present the case for a strong devotional life?

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9. What did he have to say about Scripture Memory?

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10. What are five reasons Christians do not reproduce?

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11. What specific sins did he mention?

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12. What kind of questions did Trotman most often ask?

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14. Write down four of what you think were the most powerful statements in the message.

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15. What changes could you, and should you, make in your life as the result of this challenging message?

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