

# Journey through the Parables

## "Foundations"

OPENING TEXT: **MATTHEW 7: 24-29**

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. 26 Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”

28 When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; 29 for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as their scribes.

**FOUNDATION: GREEK WORD - THEH-MAY-LEE-OS**

**In biblical thought a foundation is the decisive structural element upon which everything else rests. Its stability determines the integrity of the superstructure, whether a physical building, a life, a ministry, or the people of God as a whole.**

“For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 [Corinthians 3:11](#)). The incarnate Son is not merely one component of the Church’s footing; He is the sole acceptable ground. Building on any rival—law, tradition, human wisdom—invites eventual collapse. The New Testament

consistently insists that all saving, sanctifying, and eschatological purposes of God converge in Him.

Look into 1 Corinthians 3 It talks about how we build but the foundation has already been laid and that foundation is Jesus.

### **1 Corinthians 3: 1-9**

**3** And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. **2** I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, **3** for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking <sup>[a]</sup>like mere men? **4** For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not *mere* men?

**5** What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave *opportunity* to each one. **6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. **7** So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. **8** Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own <sup>[b]</sup>reward according to his own labor. **9** For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's <sup>[c]</sup>field, God's building.

Our foundation is Jesus and this is the rock that we must build on. We have to guard from doctrines and theologies that try to lead us away from the one true Foundation.

It is the foundation that keeps us stable and strong when life hits and storms come. When we are not standing on the solid foundation then we are easily tore down and destroyed.

## **Ephesians 4:13-15**

13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ,

Stability comes from staying connected to the one firm foundation Jesus. Anything else will cause you to fall and miss what God has originally designed you to be a part of. Our foundation Jesus teaches us to live and move by His Spirit because He will lead us into all truth. And that truth and way of living causes us to image Him in the earth so that people can see who Jesus really is and how much they really need Him!

### **Take a look at the foundation of the redwood tree:**

DESPITE GROWING UP TO 350 FEET TALL, COASTAL REDWOODS HAVE NO TAPROOT. THEIR ROOTS ARE SURPRISINGLY SHALLOW, EXTENDING ONLY 6 TO 12 FEET DEEP. TO SUPPORT THEIR MASSIVE WEIGHT AND WITHSTAND HIGH WINDS OR FLOODS, THESE ROOTS SPREAD INCREDIBLY WIDE—SOMETIMES UP TO 100 FEET FROM THE TRUNK—AND INTERTWINE WITH THE ROOTS OF NEIGHBORING TREES.

### **KEY CHARACTERISTICS**

- **DEPTH:** TYPICALLY ONLY 6 TO 12 FEET DEEP.
- **SPREAD:** CAN EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 60 TO 100 FEET.
- **NO TAPROOT:** THEY LACK A CENTRAL, DEEP ANCHORING ROOT.

## **HOW THEY STAY UPRIGHT**

- **UNDERGROUND EMBRACE:** BY LIVING IN DENSE GROVES, THE ROOTS OF ADJACENT REDWOODS INTERLACE AND FUSE TOGETHER, ESSENTIALLY "HOLDING HANDS" UNDERGROUND. THIS CREATES A MASSIVE, STABLE PLATFORM.

ITS FOUNDATION IS THE STRENGTH OF ITS ROOTS OF COURSE BUT MORE THAN THAT IT IS THE "HOLDING HANDS" WITH THE OTHER TREES THAT CAUSE GREAT STRENGTH AND FOUNDATION FOR THEM.

THIS IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO STAY CONNECTED TO THE FOUNDATION WHICH IS JESUS BUT ALSO TO EACH OTHER TO BE A SUPPORT AND STRENGTH WHEN THERE IS THE NEED.

### John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**, even as I have **loved** you, that you also **love one another**. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love for one another**."

### Galatians 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through **love** serve **one another**.

## Hebrews 10:24-25

and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 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.

## The foundation of Revelation of who Jesus is and who we are:

IN THE BIBLE, THE "CHIEF CORNERSTONE" IS A VITAL METAPHOR REPRESENTING JESUS CHRIST. IT SYMBOLIZES HIS FOUNDATIONAL ROLE IN THE CHURCH AND HIS ULTIMATE POSITION AS THE STABILIZING FORCE, STANDARD, AND UNIFYING ELEMENT OF THE FOLLOWERS FAITH.

## Isaiah 28:16

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.

## PSALM 118:22-23

**22** THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNER STONE.

**23** THIS IS THE LORD'S DOING;  
IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.

## 1 Peter 2:4-7

**4** And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, **5** you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** For *this* is contained in Scripture:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner *stone*,  
And he who believes in Him will not be [e]disappointed.”

7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, “The stone which the builders rejected, This became the very corner *stone*,”

### Ephesians 2:19-22

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

### Matthew 16:18

I also say to you that you are Peter, and **upon this rock** I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Key Points:

- Revelation of who Jesus is
- He will build His Church
- The Gates of hell will not overtake the church