1 CORINTHIANS: CALLED OUT TOGETHER



1 Corinthians 3:10-23

¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.



1 Corinthians 3:10-23

¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise.



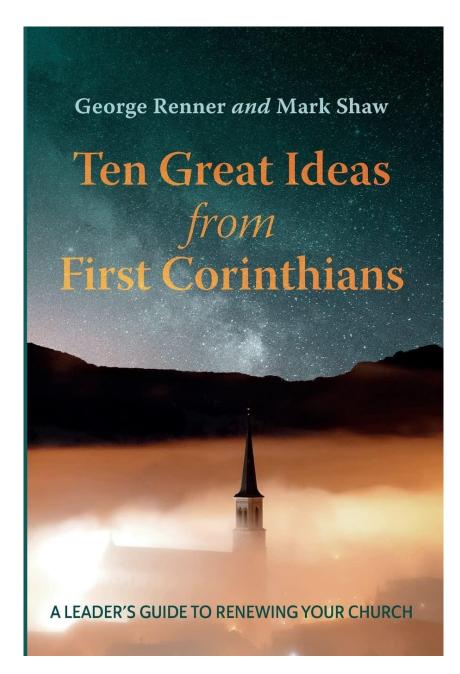
1 Corinthians 3:10-23

¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." ²¹ So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³ and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.













"Building to Last" (1 Corinthians 3:10-23)

Buildings that last...

- 1. Have an Unshakeable Foundation
- 2. Are Not Built with Earthly, but Eternal Materials
- 3. Are Built with the End in View



1. Buildings That Last Are Built with An Unshakeable Foundation

vv. 10-11 - "¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a <u>skilled</u> <u>master builder</u> (Grk. *sophos architektwn; "wise/ skilled architect"*) I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

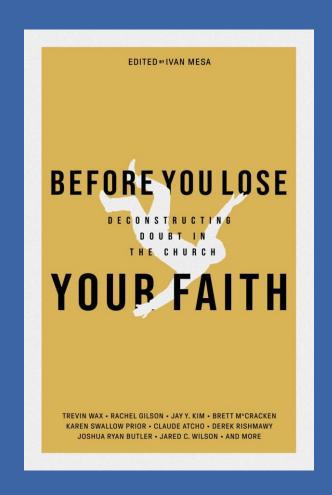




1. Buildings That Last Are Built with An Unshakeable Foundation

"The radical choice is to keep the faith. When I say this, I'm talking about Christian faith in the true, biblical sense... I would encourage you, if you're considering a break from Christianity, to make sure you've given real Christianity a try..."

- Brett McCraken





vv. 12-13 - "¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done."



Earthly Materials:

a) Worldly Desires

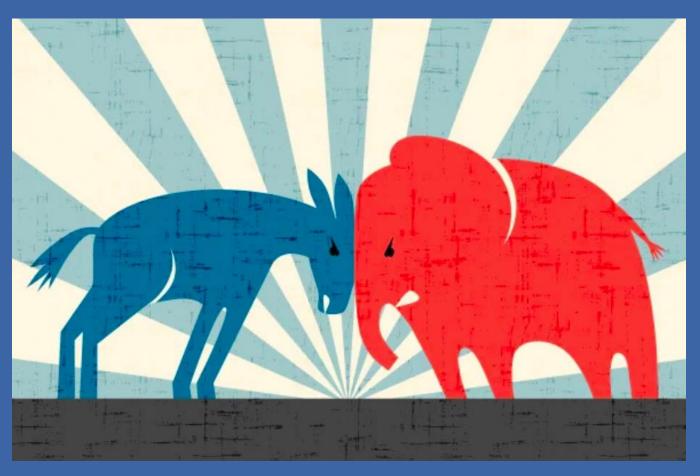
Mark 4:18-19 - "18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, 19 but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful."



Earthly Materials:

a) Worldly Desires

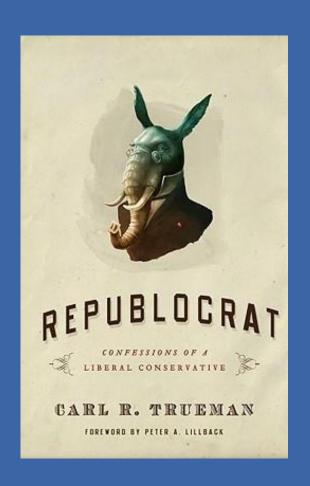
b) Worldly Alliances (i.e., alliances <u>in</u> this world)





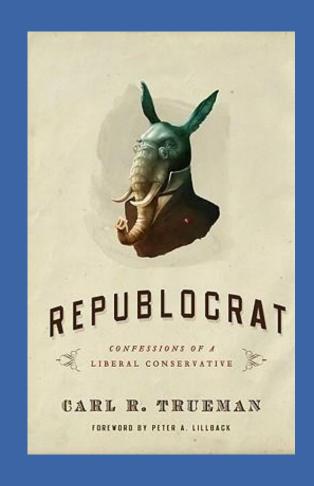
"We have no basis for idolizing the social organization: institutions, practices, and values of our passing present than anybody in the past.... We do well to be aware that we must never assume the way things are done now represents the ideal and end of some historical process that is simply getting better and better. That is a pagan idea that also involves a basic idolatry of ourselves and our mores."

- Carl Trueman





"To put it bluntly: the fact that American democratic capitalism seems to be the best system for social organization so far devised does not mean that it represents 'reality' in a way that has never been done before...and that there will be no further developments beyond its slow and inevitable spread across the face of the globe. What I am not saying here is that it is a bad system; I am simply saying that we should not idolize it as if it represented the end of history."







vv. 13-15 - "¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire."



3. Buildings That Last Are Built with the End in View

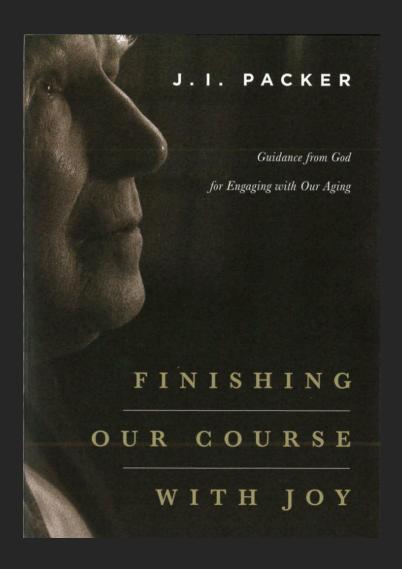
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3. Buildings That Last Are Built with the End in View

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.





"Runners in a distance race, like jockeys in a horse race, always try to keep something in reserve for a final sprint. And my contention is going to be that, so far as our bodily health allows, we should aim to be found running the last lap of the race of our Christian life, as we would say, flat out. The final sprint, so I urge, should be a sprint indeed."

- JI Packers