

# FOUNDATIONS 01

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*I THINK THESE LYRICS WERE AMONG WAYLON JENNING'S BEST.*

*Singing old church hymns and nursery rhymes*

*From the days way back before my time*

*With a little child upon my knee*

*Singing every sweet word back to me*

*Look how far I had to come*

*To get back where I started from*

*With a child's wisdom passing time*

*Singing old church hymns and nursery rhymes*

SOMETIMES WE \_\_\_\_\_. WE LEAVE THE FAITH OF OUR CHILDHOOD

*And like that old Waylon Song, "Look how far I had to come to get back where I started from."*

CHURCHES HAVE BEEN DECIMATED BY THE PROFOUND CHANGES OF THIS

*Fewer people than ever attend church. Fewer people than ever consider themselves to be Christian.*

WE ARE SMALLER IN \_\_\_\_\_ BUT GREATER IN \_\_\_\_\_.

*Isaiah 40:31 But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength.*

*They will soar high on wings like eagles.*

*They will run and not grow weary.*

*They will walk and not faint.*

IT FEELS GOOD TO GET BACK WHERE WE STARTED FROM. IT'S HEALING  
TO REMEMBER WHO WE WERE AND HOW THAT DEFINES WHO WE  
ARE.

*Revelation 3:2 'Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My*

God.

Revelation 3:3 'So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it,

FOUNDATIONS ANCHOR US TO GOD'S \_\_\_\_\_ AND PRINCIPLES SO THAT WE CAN STAY TRUE TO OUR \_\_\_\_\_ AS WE TAKE ON THE FUTURE.

Back in my seminary days I had to read a book "Built to Last." James Collins and Jerry Porras.

*The visionary companies build a corporate culture around two governing principles: 1) Preserve core values and core purpose, and 2) change cultural and operating practices, specific goals and strategies to meet the changing environment.*

STRONG \_\_\_\_\_ ALLOW FOR FLEXIBLE \_\_\_\_\_.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

OUR FOUNDATION IS A COMMITMENT TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

I. I CAN'T \_\_\_\_\_ THE BIBLE

Galatians 1:8 But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

Galatians 1:9 As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to that which you received, let him be accursed.

## WE MUST NOT \_\_\_\_\_ FROM THE BIBLE

*Matthew 5:18 "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, NOT THE SMALLEST LETTER OR STROKE SHALL PASS AWAY FROM THE LAW, UNTIL ALL IS ACCOMPLISHED.*

WHEN IT COMES TO THE BIBLE WE LEAVE THE COMMAS WHERE THEY ARE.

## WE MUST NOT \_\_\_\_\_ TO THE BIBLE.

WHEN YOU ADD \_\_\_\_\_ WORD TO THIS WORD YOU CHANGE THE AUTHORITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ WORD.

WE \_\_\_\_\_ TRADITION.

SOME TRADITIONS ARE BORN FROM \_\_\_\_\_, SOME FROM PERSONAL PREFERENCE, SOME FROM \_\_\_\_\_ AND SOME FROM \_\_\_\_\_.

BUT THEY ARE ALL JUST TRADITIONS. AND \_\_\_\_\_ SHOULD NEVER BE ADDED TO THE BIBLE.

*THE MESSAGE OF JESUS IS THIS: ONE \_\_\_\_\_, ONE \_\_\_\_\_, AND ONE \_\_\_\_\_!*

*Acts 4:12 "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."*

## II. I CAN'T CHANGE THE BIBLE. I CAN ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ WHAT IT SAYS

*Matthew 28:20, "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded."*

Notice he doesn't say, "Teaching them all that I commanded."

IT IS TEACHING THEM TO \_\_\_\_\_ ALL THAT I HAVE  
COMMANDED. **OBSERVE** MEANS DO.

THE FOCUS ISN'T \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWLEDGE IS IMPORTANT! BUT \_\_\_\_\_ IS NEVER THE  
OBJECTIVE! HE DIDN'T CALL US TO KNOW. HE CALLED US TO DO.

*Alexander Solzhenitsyn*

*As he poured over the pages of the bible he slowly came to terms with his own condition. Solzhenitsyn had always blamed sin on someone else. The communists. The bad people. The world out there. But as he was confronted with the truth of the Word he came to learn that the darkness isn't OUT there it's IN here!*

*"It was only when I lay there on rotting prison straw that I sensed the first stirrings of good. Gradually, it was disclosed to me that the line separating good and evil passes, not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either, but right through every human heart and through all human hearts. So, bless you, prison, for having been in my life.*

ONE MAN WITH ONE \_\_\_\_\_ CAN BE CHANGED FOREVER.