

BUILT ON WHAT MATTERS PART 1 HANDOUT

9.13.26

Jesus said, "I will build My Church."

Because Christ has reconciled you to God...And because Christ has reconciled you to one another...Here is who you are now.

EPHESIANS 2:19–22 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

VERSE 19: Paul stacks metaphors...And each one brings them closer.

Notice the progression: **Strangers** → **Citizens** → **Family**.

- You have been brought into God's family. **That is grace.**

KEY THOUGHT #1: IN CHRIST, STRANGERS BECOME FAMILY

Verse 20: The Church is built upon the **apostolic and prophetic revelation of God's truth**.

The point is: The Church does not invent its own message. The Church receives God's message.

KEY THOUGHT #2: A LASTING CHURCH IS BUILT ON GOD'S TRUTH

And then the phrase: "WITH CHRIST JESUS HIMSELF AS THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE"

- It refers to a foundational stone of critical importance in the structure.

And Paul is making a declaration: **Jesus Christ determines the alignment of the Church.**

1. THE CORNERSTONE DETERMINES ALIGNMENT

2. THE CORNERSTONE PROVIDES UNITY
3. THE CORNERSTONE PROVIDES STABILITY

We must be flexible in our methods but immovable in our message because the Church is built upon God's revealed truth.

A church that moves away from God's Word may continue to have a crowd—but **eventually it will no longer be the Church God intended it to be.**

KEY THOUGHT #3: CHRIST IS THE CORNERSTONE THAT SETS OUR ALIGNMENT

VERSE 21: The phrase "joined together" communicates something intentionally fitted or connected.

Paul doesn't simply say "a temple." He says: **"A holy temple."**

- Holy means set apart for God.

If Christ is the Cornerstone, then everything in our church must be measured against Him.

KEY THOUGHT #4: GOD IS BUILDING US TOGETHER FOR HIS PRESENCE

VERSE 22: The God who cannot be contained by heaven and earth chooses to dwell among His people by His Spirit.

He's shaping you for where He wants you to fit.

Am I aligned with Christ?

- Have I allowed my preferences to become more important than His purpose?
- Have I allowed culture to influence me more than Scripture?
- Have I built my life on something temporary?
- Is Jesus truly my reference point?

LIFE POINT: WHEN CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE, EVERYTHING ELSE FINDS ITS PROPER PLACE.