

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

7.2.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

The Right Foundation

## Colossians 2: 7

Mankind's goal is to build a life that is worth living, a life that is significant, a life that is strong and stable, a life that he can take pride in. Humanity's desire is to live a sustainable quality of life, and in every part of their life, people want to experience the success of wellbeing.

Success, or failure in one's life, is based upon the decision of whether or not our life is built upon wisdom and truth, this would be the truth of the word of God, and not just the appearance of the truth that is based upon the foolish opinions and reasoning of the world.

A well-built life must start out by building upon the right foundation. The right foundation is a life in Christ, which starts with God's saving grace, and then through the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are commanded to apply the spiritual truths of God's word to the realities of our lives. A strong foundation will withstand all that comes against it, because it is founded on the word of God and not just on the known word of God, but on the word that is set in motion. We cannot just be hearers of the word, but we must be doers of the word.

**James 1: 22,....**but be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves....

Our relationship with the Lord is very important. There are those who profess to be Christians, who do not have a saving faith, and there are those that have a saving faith but show no evidence of their salvation, and then there are those who by faith believing have the saving grace of God, those who not only profess Gods saving grace, but produce the good works of righteousness which God has prepared for us to do.

As believers, whatever we believe about Christ will be reflected in our decision to be obedient to his word, and obeying Gods word enables us to stand strong on the right foundation, which is Christ Jesus.

**Colossians 2: 7,....**rooted and built up in him, and established in faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving....

The decisions that we make reveal the type of foundation that we stand firm upon. Therefore, we will see that all of our decisions have a source, a place where they have originated from. The source of our decisions is that which we believe in, and our beliefs influence our thoughts, and it is these thoughts that influence our decisions. In other words, our beliefs, or our unbelief's, which ever they may be, drive our decision-making abilities. Therefore, we are encouraged, by the word of God to examine our beliefs, so that we might see the things which we are holding onto, those things which drive our ability to make decisions. Often time, our decisions should give God many reasons not to love us, but none of those decisions will change his characteristics, he will still love us unconditionally.

**Matthew 16: 15 – 18,....**he saith unto them, but whom say ye that I am? Simon Peter answered....thou art Christ, the Son of the living God....Jesus answered....blessed art thou....for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven....and I say unto thee, thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it....

Like Peter, every person must ask himself or herself the question, whom do we say that Christ is? Without this significant eternal confession of faith, which is revealed unto all mankind in some way by the spirit of God, without this confession, we have no foundation on which to build our eternal life upon. The church, or the body of Christ, was not founded upon Peter or any other man, because man lives in a fallen state of sin. But Satan will use this as a means of deceiving humanity into following after worldly, sinful man, and many will be deceived, and many will follow this worldly deception. The church, that Christ has been building is made up of those who have put their confession of faith in him, and therefore stand firm on Christ as their foundation of the solid rock. In this we now are living stones, laid upon the foundation of Christ, the Son of God.

**1 Peter 2: 5 – 6**,....ye also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house....to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ....it is contained in the scripture, behold I lay in Zion a chief corner stone, elect, precious, and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded....

Every Christian, as their own, is a spiritual house wherein dwells the Holy Spirit. Now, all believers, are living stones, assembled and united together by God as a fitting dwelling place, with Christ being the chief corner stone, or foundation. Not only are we living stones that are fashioned through Christ into a spiritual house, but we are also commanded to come boldly to the throne of grace to intercede for others in prayer, because no unsaved man can approach God, for sin continues to remain as their separation from God.

**Isaiah 28: 16**,....therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation, he that believeth shall not make haste....

Just as Isaiah was instructed to teach the children of Israel, so are we commanded to build our life upon Christ. As Christians, we plan, and become involved in many things which we believe to be good activities, all set forth in the name of Christ, and we base these activities upon growing the kingdom of God. We feel the urgency because of our belief, which means that often time, we rush into these activities, forgetting to first consult with the Lord, and therefore wait on an answer from him. Only with Christ as our secure, stable foundation, can anything lasting be built, everything else is just a poorly built add on, that will not withstand the test of time, and is sure to end up in ruins.

**Matthew 7: 24 – 27,....**whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock....it fell not for it was founded upon a rock....everyone that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand....and it fell, and great was the fall of it....

So, what kind of foundation are we building upon? All of humanity shares the same vision, the same dreams, the same desires, and that is to build a life that we feel is worth living, a life that has a great significance in the world. For this reason, God has given all of mankind the same opportunity to choose the foundation on which they are to build their life. With this opportunity, God has also provided each one with the truth concerning the types of foundations, so that there should be no confusion before making the choice to build. Sadly, not all will choose to build that which will last, that which has eternal value. Then there are those who will choose to build that which is for show, for personal gain and for worldly wealth, that which has no eternal value. So, what is the greatest contrast to choosing the right foundation, it is the end result, which can either be an eternal life with God in heaven, or an eternal condemnation apart from God in hell. The choice belongs to us.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowolfarm.com/>

