

Foundation of Eternal Truth

The best way to understand the many different denominations of Christ-focused churches worldwide is by looking through the eyes of God. If you're like me, you've encountered numerous ideas and opinions on what the life of a Christian should look like. Perhaps you've struggled to comprehend how this is possible when we all use the same Bible. The truth is, if everyone was taught by the same Teacher—the Holy Spirit—we should reach the same conclusions. However, many individuals with good intentions speak on behalf of God and incorporate their own natural thoughts into the mix.

There is wisdom that comes from the minds of men on how to succeed in this life, which may seem good but lacks the power to bring about transformation. However, there is a truth that originates from the very mind of God and is imparted to believers on this earth. The primary method through which the Holy Spirit teaches this truth is by praying in tongues. As our spirit is connected with the Spirit of God, we can delve into the profound depths of His wisdom. Once this revelation takes root in a person's inner man, it can be shared and passed on, never losing its transformative power.

The Apostle Paul addressed this issue with an example in 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, *"For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."*

In this passage, Paul, in his capacity as an Apostle, stands firm and declares that the foundation has been laid by him and others who have followed. It is crucial for us to recognize that the only acceptable foundation is Jesus Christ. As long as any preacher proclaims this foundation, they remain faithful to the gospel. Salvation through Jesus stands as the bedrock of Christianity, and no other truth holds greater importance.

He continues, *"Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is."* 1 Corinthians 3:14-15

During that time, the city of Rome boasted remarkable buildings, some of which still stand today. Just like today, there were both wealthy and poor communities spread throughout the city. The wealthy inhabitants constructed their homes using solid stones like marble and granite, adorning them with precious gold and silver. On the other hand, the poor had to make do with humble materials like wood, hay, and straw for their homes. Unfortunately, the cities were often plagued by destructive fires without modern fire prevention measures. These fires would sweep through entire neighborhoods, and the material used in constructing homes would determine whether they survived or turned to ash.

Here, Paul is conveying a powerful message to the preachers of his time. He compares their teachings to building materials for people's faith, emphasizing that everything will undergo a test by fire. In ancient Rome, as in life, our choices can have a lasting impact. If their doctrine comes from worldly sources, anything built upon it will crumble like ash. However, that which is constructed with Divine Truth will withstand any trial, enduring through all fires. Remember, only the eternal truths provide a solid foundation for our lives.

He then shares in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, *"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."* Living our lives guided by temporary human wisdom can rob us of Heavenly rewards. Moreover, if a message undermines Jesus as the foundation, it defiles the very temple of God. Salvation through Christ is the only way to reach Heaven. Many Christians will be surprised to see their works turn to ash because they were built upon earthly wisdom. However, they will still be saved.

I have been privileged to sit under the teachings of many remarkable men and women of God. They have imparted valuable lessons, all with good intentions. However, it is vitally important that I discern between the wisdom of men and the wisdom of God. Each preacher uses the Bible and shares what God has revealed to them. Yet, when I stand before God, I will be accountable for my own life. The beliefs I embrace and allow to shape me are my responsibility alone. I cannot rely on any person's opinion regarding the weighty matter of my eternal future. I also recognize that I lack the intelligence to discern the difference entirely.

Thankfully, my Heavenly Father did not burden me or any preacher with this immense responsibility. Instead, He entrusted it to the Holy Spirit, who has been assigned as my Teacher. 1 Corinthians 14:2 says, *"For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit, he speaks mysteries."* When I dedicate time to praying in tongues, my personal Teacher, the Holy Spirit, imparts mysteries and truths from the mind of God into my spiritual understanding. These revelations are beyond words, everlasting, indescribable, and life changing.

Let us, as the church, continue to prioritize spending time in the prayer closet, inviting God's truth into our lives. By doing so, we guarantee a wonderful celebration of rewards for eternity.

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