

NO CONDEMNATION:

THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH YOUR LIFE SHOULD BE BUILT

Bertie Brits

May 28, 2017

GREETINGS in the wonderful name of Jesus. It is such a great blessing for me to come to you and minister the Gospel of God's Grace to you. The more I understand the Gospel of Grace the more I realize it is the power of God unto His quality of life in the earth where He is manifesting just who He is in every person and we are built as a habitation of God, the place where God lives... the very building, the tabernacle of God, in the earth. What a beautiful thought and what a beautiful truth!

I want to welcome you to this live webcast of Dynamiclovewebchurch, where I will be ministering the Gospel of God's Grace to you. I trust it will be in a very powerful way helping you to understand the dimensions of the love of God. If you are slotting in for the first time, I want to assure you that you are going to hear a message of acceptance, a message of love and grace, a message that will always focus on your value and what Christ has done for you unto HIM bringing forth great fruit in your life.

When we think of God, when we think of the goodness of God and the kindness of God we cannot but have a life that explodes into what He is and who He is. That is why we continue to minister the message of Grace here. I want to welcome all those who watch for the first time. This is an internet church but it is a family, a web internet family that gathers around the Gospel of God's Grace. To all of you who slot in regularly, welcome to our Service. It's wonderful to have you here and it is an honor for me to minister to you.

PRAYER

Father, I want to thank You so much for Your kindness and Your goodness. I want to thank You that You care for people with a very great and wonderful care! I thank You that You've come to give us life, to give us an abundance of life! Holy Spirit, thank You that You will speak powerfully through me today, ministering to every person that is watching, so that the fruit of Your Spirit, the power of the resurrection can show in every person. Amen

COMMUNION

Before we have Communion today, I want to tell you what I am going to be ministering on today. I am going to minister on the resurrection. I am going to talk about the platform of no condemnation as the foundation on which your life is supposed to be built. I'm also going to explain how that relates to the apostles and the prophets. I'm going to explain that the church is not built on the office of the apostles and prophets but the church is actually built on the revelation of Christ, the One who conquered sin and death. Amen

So when we think of Communion, when we think of the goodness of God, we are going to do it in the light of that. I would like to read from a paraphrase of Ephesians that I wrote called The Resurrection Bible. (As time goes on I want to do most of Paul's letters and maybe some of the others as time goes on. There's no time limit on this. It's just as I feel and as I study the scriptures.)

Ephesians 2: 3-4 These two verses basically talks about the Jews and Gentiles and how the Gentiles are included into the Gospel of Jesus. And it also explains how the Jews weren't set free from sin by the Law but how Christ actually came to bring forth fruit. In the light of that we are going to have Communion today.

Ephesians 2

:3 We as Jews were not excluded from sins death-blow. We were as much given over and in bondage to death as you were. The fact that we were given the law-code did not save us from this death. As a matter of fact, we were worse off. Our minds and our desires of the flesh were running wild, manifesting sin and all forms of lust. Jews and Gentiles were both in the same sinking boat and in need of a Life Saver.

:4 God that loses His breath over us, the one that desires us, never lost vision of who we are and why we were made. Humbly He came and bowed His head in adoration of us in His kindness, by setting us free from the sin that destroys us. He has set us free and blessed us with one and the same kind of life Jesus was risen into. This you experienced first-hand, seeing the love-fruit you bear in His life in you.

Isn't that absolutely beautiful! Look at what Jesus has come to do! He has come to end the life that the Jews and the Gentiles had which was a life that was found in human ability to bring forth life in them. Jesus came and when He became a human being, He came to end the old man. The old man that Paul refers to here is the man that stood under the jurisdiction of interpreting the Law as an Insider/ Outsider System where there were Jews and Gentiles. The Gentiles were seen as sinners because they didn't even have the Law and the Jews were sinners because they couldn't obey the Law. That old man that was relating to God based on the Law, and then having its fruit in the lusts of the flesh, that man, Jesus Christ, came and He ended that man. He died that man away. And offered His blood, His life, the life that He came to give which actually was possessed by the Father, came into human flesh, took sin upon Him, took death upon Him. That old life, that sin life, the Law man life, died away and the original life that was possessed by Jesus was given as a gift to all those that Jesus died for. That is what the Communion is all about.

When we take the bread, we break the bread, we are mindful of the ending of the old man, like we just read in Ephesians, where Jesus came and saw both Jew and Gentile in the same sinking boat. He came and ended that life, brought forth a brand new life and now, today, by the power of the Holy Spirit He raises us up into the very life that Jesus was resurrected into so that we can enjoy the fruit of the Spirit. Isn't that absolutely wonderful! That is Good News! That is what He has come to do.

So when we break this bread, we think of that and the beauty of this is that we are not only thinking of the end of the old man but we are also thinking of the end of separation. This body that was broken and what Christ has done does not only involve the end of sin in our lives. It also involves that we look at humanity not from an Us and Them perspective but from the perspective of since all had sin and all did not have the glory of God living in them and all were included in Christ and therefore the resurrection of Christ belongs to all, we have the mindset especially in the Church that there is not rich and poor. There's not holy and unholy. All of a sudden we find unity where we can respect one another with the very same respect that Christ had for us when He gave His life. Like verse 4 says, "The God who lost His breath over us came and bowed down. He humbled Himself. He bowed His head towards us and He honored us as His very own in taking away that which contradicts who and what we are and what His plan from the beginning.

So I want to say to you that you are beautiful to the Lord. You are valuable to God. He cares for you and there is no defeat that you are experiencing in your life that can outlast the victory of Jesus. What I want to say by that is that anything that you feel a bad situation has defeated you or you are going through a difficult time, it can never live as long as the eternal life of God in Jesus Christ and that life is yours! Glory to God! As we eat the bread and drink the wine, we do it in remembrance of this beauty and this wonderful life that God has freely given us! Let us enjoy the Communion together.

TODAY'S MESSAGE

NO CONDEMNATION: THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH YOUR LIFE SHOULD BE BUILT

Bertie Brits

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Today I am going to talk about the foundation of Christianity, the foundation on which your life is supposed to be built. I want to do what the Apostle Paul did in many of his writings. He wanted to mention the conclusion that he wants to come to and then explain it and this is what I am going to share with you today. At the end of the Service you will understand that the foundation on which your life is built is the revelation that Jesus Christ conquered sin and death. Let me say that again. The foundation on which Christianity is built is the fact that Jesus has conquered sin and death and has given eternal life as a free gift to man.

I'm also going to talk about the wrong understanding that there is about this foundation. The wrong understanding that people had about this foundation was simply that the Church is not built on that revelation of the death and the resurrection of Christ but that the Church is built on the office of the Apostle and the Prophet and that is a big, big, problem. I see that going through the Church. I've been part of it for a long time in my life. I remember in my dealings with different churches and different groups inside the Pentecostal, Charismatic System, that a lot of people were going into an apostolic reformation. They came back to the office of the apostle and the prophet which they would say, which was wrongly understood, as the foundation from where the Church must be matured by the apostle and the prophet. We are going to look at that and I am going to explain that is not the job of the apostle and the prophet to mature the Church but that the apostle and the prophet were simply servants to people in the Church, a gift in helping people understand what the true Gospel is to understand that Jesus was the Christ. That they can have their own relationship with God and that God can give the increase in the Church. Paul clearly said that he is nothing, Apollos is nothing, the office of the apostle is not what it's all about. They were simply servants to the Church and that God actually brought the increase. Glory to God!

Let's get right into this message. We need to understand what the word, Christ, means. The word, Christ, is not the surname of Jesus. I remember when I was a kid, I asked my Mom, 'Is Christ the surname of Jesus?' She said, "No", but she also couldn't explain to me what Christ meant. I thought Christ was the surname of Jesus. It was like you would find Joseph and Mary Christ and then they had Jesus Christ. That's not what it means. The word, Christ, means Messiah.

The Messiah of the Jews was the one that they believed would lead them out of the captivity that they were under with “whosoever” they would be under and then be such a strong leader in the earth as a Jew that he would actually introduce the resurrection from the dead. That's what they believed. What the Jews actually thought was that they as a Jewish nation would take over the earth, the world, and that God would give them the world to govern and rule. They would then take the commandments of the Law and, through application of that Law, they would bring forth a system where peace can be in this world and that would all be governed by the Christ or the Messiah. That's what it meant. When Jesus came and He came as the Messiah, it was difficult for them to grasp what this Messiah is all about because everything He did contradicted what the traditional view was of what the Messiah would be.

They thought they were going to take over the world as a Jewish nation and they thought they would be delivered from Rome. Meantime, it wasn't what Jesus came to do. Jesus came to deliver them from the true dictator and the true evil ruler which was sin and death. He came and He conquered sin and He conquered death and He was then the Messiah of not just the Jews but of anyone who would be under sin and death. When we read Romans and we make a careful study of the Book of Romans, we find that Romans, especially the end of chapter one, the whole of chapter 2 and the beginning of chapter 3, we clearly can see that all people, Jew and Gentile, all of mankind, was bound under sin. Jesus Christ then came and when He could break the bondage of sin over man, in Him taking all sin upon Himself, and then being raised from the dead, conquering all sin, when He could do that then He was declared through the resurrection as the Son of God, the Christ, the Messiah.

Whenever we read the word, Christ, in the Bible, or when we say that we are IN Christ, or when we talk about Christ in you, it doesn't just talk about a person. It talks about The Person, Jesus, that stands in the authority wherein He exercises rulership over our sin and over our death. That is what we need to see. That is the foundation from where we will truly have life.

Romans 8 obviously flows out of Romans 7 where Paul had a very deep explanation on what is inside man should man try and find life by the Law. He, basically, says that there is no life in man by himself. Man was actually married to death to bring forth fruit unto death, In other words, man was united with death and in this union with death he was bringing forth fruit unto death which was the fruit of the flesh and that would lead man to absolute destruction.

Then Paul comes and he says in *Romans 7*:

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. He says, “Jesus, the One who was born from Mary who then was manifested to be the Christ, the Messiah.” In this revelation of Christ as the Messiah, we will find deliverance from the fruit of the flesh in our lives. Let me say that again: Paul is coming and he is saying, “What shall deliver us from sin and death? What shall deliver me from this body of death wherein the good that I want to do, I cannot do, wherein the bad that I don't want to do, I actually do that. Who shall deliver me from that? “

He says, ***:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.***

Romans 8:

1 There is therefore now no condemnation (The word, condemnation, there does not mean guilty feelings for when I sin. The word, condemnation, there in the context of Romans 7, is ***There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who*** (in the revelation of the Messiah, do not seek righteousness by the works. This is what he says here) ***who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.***

What is he saying there? Some people say that even in the original text, that part is not in there and I agree that part is not in there but it is fully accurate to put it in there in the context of what **Romans 7** actually teaches. What he is saying is that when you are in Christ and when we are in the revelation of Christ and what He has done and when we stand where we stand now, in the time from the resurrection until now, should we in this time not seek to walk after the flesh. The context here of walk after the flesh, is to walk in the concept of Judaism with the Law of Moses seeking to have life and justification by the obedience to laws. That is what he is saying.

Spirit means the power that raised Christ from the dead. Should we not walk in that but after the Spirit, in other words, those who are walking on the foundation and in the revelation of Jesus as the One who conquered our sin, conquered our death, and that the Holy Spirit raised Him up in a life higher than sin, above death, and that Spirit will raise us up. Those who believe that the Holy Spirit, by His power will give a brand new life and that we don't have to try and have a life by our works, what will happen to those people is for them there is no more a life where you are condemned to be destroyed by sin in the flesh. But what awaits you is the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life as well as in the end, victory over physical death where you will find that you will be raised from the dead.

Let me just say something here quickly to bring this in and then I'll wrap up the first part of this message. When we look at the resurrection from the dead, some people say that the resurrection from the dead cannot be physical but it has to be some form of a spiritual resurrection because what about people who have been eaten by a shark five hundred years ago? How is God going to raise him up because he basically became nothing? I mean he was digested by the shark and eventually went into nothing, became dust in the ocean or whatever... just into nothingness. Like the atom bomb completely destroyed people. How would Jesus raise that person up?

When we look at the Bible, we find that the narrative from the beginning, from Genesis, what God is saying all the time, is talking about God as the Creator He's talking about Him as the One that made everything. He just spoke and it was. So, God could, actually, from absolutely nothing, from no thing, in the physical at all, bring forth the whole universe. Then we find, in the first chapter of John, that he says that this message of life became flesh and dwelt among us and this Jesus is as much as Creator because God created everything by this Word. The message that John and Paul try to communicate to the Church is that God would eventually recreate or bring forth an immortal body even if we have died. I put it this way: If God from nothing could create the universe and you present Him with substance that was completely destroyed by an atom bomb, you are really giving Him a lot to work with! Let me say that again: If you say, "God, from nothing you created the universe but I have a challenge for You. Here is a human body that was eaten by a shark and then dissolved into the waters of the ocean. Can You do something with that?" That's a piece of cake to Him! That's nothing to Him in the sense of what He really can do. He has a lot to work with! So, Church, when we talk about the resurrection, let us not fall into the trap of thinking that the resurrection is going to heaven after you've died. That is not the resurrection! The resurrection is a physical resurrection.

Let me wrap it up... I want to lay this foundation of Christ because I am now going to go to the next passage where we are going to talk about Paul who said he laid the foundation and what that means. The foundation from where we will have eternal life is Christ Jesus, or, Jesus the Christ. The man, Jesus, that then was proven to be the Messiah who then rules and reigns over our sin and death, the One who will bring forth in our lives His life. So the foundation from where you can have a holy life and a righteous life is only Jesus! No man can mature you into the life of Christ because Paul clearly comes and states that the only way you can have a holy life is by the resurrection, by the Spirit. So he says, "If we walk in the Spirit..." What does walking in the Spirit mean? It means in the revelation that the Spirit raised Christ from the dead above sin, above death, and that this man, Jesus Christ, as a human being, has rulership over all people's sin and all people's death and that He made the Spirit, that raised Him from the dead, available to all people in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts chapter two so we now can have a brand new life by the Holy Spirit.

If we talk about maturity, and we use the fruit of the Spirit as maturity, or a mature Christian life, I want to tell you that no person can lead you to maturity. No person can mature you. No Apostle can mature you. The only thing that can bring maturity to a Christian's life is belief in the Gospel. That is why the Apostle Paul said in the Book of Hebrew, "By this time you ought to have been teachers but you are still in need of food." Was it because the writer of the Book of Hebrews wasn't a true apostle? Was that why they weren't matured? No! It was because they didn't want to walk on the foundation which is Christ! That is all! I want to say this to you: Let no man say to you that he must bring you to maturity because that will only lead to so much manipulation, so much control and pain in your life.

Another thing that we can say is, "Well, since there are different gifts in the Church, then those gifts must be developed. I don't say that I am an apostle, but let's just use this as an example. Let's say that I am an apostle and I now I see that there are other people with a potential of being apostles and I take it upon me that the good work that God has started in them then it's my job to complete it in them. No, it doesn't work that way. It is not the job of the Apostle to mature apostles. That is not the job of the apostle because what will happen is that we will say that without the office of an apostle or a prophet, that no man can actually come into maturity and that without that office the Church is helpless. That leads to a too big of a platform where the weakness of man's flesh can come in and manipulate and control and hurt people. In the twenty-three years that I've been a part of ministries and in ministry, I have seen the hurt that it brings. I am preaching this to you, not because I am against a certain preacher but I just believe as the pastor of Dynamic Love Web fellowship, there is a love in my heart for you and I don't want you to live under the thing of, "Is our web Church maybe not good enough because we don't stand and make something big about the fivefold ministry or the office of the Apostle and the Prophet? I want to say to you that you don't ever have to mention apostle or prophet or anything like that in order to have the fullness of Jesus Christ. I am not saying that there is no need for an apostle or a prophet. They are part of the body and I can't say that I don't need the eye and I don't need the hand but there is a way where we can look at this which is healthy and another part is not healthy.

So, the foundation, the introduction part of this is, The foundation to a new life, a mature life, is the Spirit, the message of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, believed in the hearts of people where people don't walk after the Law but walk after the revelation of the brand new man.

1 Corinthians 3 This was written to the Corinthians and Paul actually said that he speaks to them as children. What we are going to look at is a very elementary way of talking and looking at things.

:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another built thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereupon.

:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

The foundation of the Church in Corinth was Jesus, the Christ. The revelation was that there was a man, Jesus, who they knew walked on the earth and this Jesus is now the ruler that has all authority over all sin and all death. He is now, by His Holy Spirit, manifesting the kingdom in the earth. And He will, by the power of His Spirit, bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in your life. Amen! Isn't that absolutely good news!

The Bible does not say that the foundation of the Church is built on the foundation of the office of an apostle and a prophet in the local Church. That is not true. It is an absolute lie and it is leading to so much harm. It will lead to as much hurt as what any lie can lead to : Eventually pain, hurt, destruction in people's live, misery, division, control, manipulation, etc.

So, when we look at Paul here, he says, "As a wise master builder, I came as an apostle." He describes what the apostle does. "I came and I declared Jesus as the Christ! When I declared Jesus as the Christ, you believed that. As you believed that, that revelation and that resurrection power started to bring forth fruit in your life. Now we find other teachers, other people, coming and they are teaching but ***they must take heed how they build***. In other words, they must watch out what they preach because there is no place wherein a new life can be built outside of Jesus as the Christ." That is what he is saying. Then he says, "Let every man's work or every preacher's work, will be tested. The way that his work will be tested is it on the foundation Jesus Christ?" If it's not on the foundation as Jesus is the Christ or we cannot conquer our own sin by our own works and effort or if it's not built on the foundation that the resurrection of Jesus is the power that brings forth a brand new life in me and I cannot attain to that by my own works, if it's not built on that what will take place is it will not have everlasting life and it will fall apart and end in misery and pain. That is what is going to take place.

Let us read it again. **1Corinthians 3:**

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another built thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereupon.

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ which is the anointed One or Jesus, the One that has the rulership and the One who has come and broken the bondage of sin and death. He is the One that has conquered my sin, conquered my death, and by His rulership, He will establish His life in me. That is what he calls the foundational, the foundation on which the Church in Corinth was built upon and that is Christ.

I went on line and searched the foundation of the apostles and the prophets and click on images on Google and you will see all the different pictures. Many of those pictures have Jesus as the cornerstone and then part of the foundation, the next brick in the foundation would be apostles and prophets, evangelists and pastors and teachers. Now, that picture is an error because it doesn't say that the foundation is Christ and the office of the apostle and the prophet. The foundation is the revelation that Jesus is the Messiah, the One that by His resurrection brings us eternal life! Any person that would say that the office of the apostle or the office of the prophet or the office of the pastor is part of the foundation is simply in error.

It doesn't make the person bad. It doesn't make the person an evil person that God hates or anything like that. All that it means is it is a lie and whatever a lie can produce is what will be produced in your life if you believe that. You will have pain. That is what will take place.

Again, what is the foundation? The foundation is Jesus as the Messiah. Some will say, "Bertie, I'm not so sure about that." Go and look in Matthew 16 where Peter comes and Jesus asked him, "Who do men say that I am?" Then Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Then Jesus said, "Peter, on this revelation or on this rock, on this foundation, I will build My Church."

The foundation is that Jesus is the Christ, that we don't have to seek freedom from our sins by our will power or by anything but by Jesus and that He actually brought that. That is what we find so clearly in Romans 10 where he says, "Go and announce the Good News!" What is the Good News? The Good News is that Jesus conquered sin and death. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, He was resurrected and He showed His hands and His side.. Then He said to them, "Go and preach the Good News!" The Good News is that Jesus is the Christ. That is the foundation on which the Church is built. Let us not add anything to that! The moment you want to add to that foundation and say that the revelation as Jesus is the Christ is not rock solid enough, we will add in the office of an apostle and the office of a prophet in there, you are in trouble.

You might say, "Bertie, what is the office of the apostle and the prophet? This is how I see it: When Paul came to Corinth what he did was as a wise master builder he said, "I want to see God dwell in these people. I want to see, not just God dwell as the Holy Spirit that is with them, I want to actually see the life of God... the kindness and the goodness and the fruit of the Spirit, in each one of these people unto the hope of the resurrection. That is what I want to see. I want to see the building of God, or the house of God, the dwelling place of God, manifest in Corinth." He knew the only thing on which that place where God actually dwells in people, unto the manifestation of who He is, can be established in that town, is if he preaches a man who has conquered all their sin, conquered all their death, accepted them, loves them and brings them into who He is and that He will manifest who He is in them again.

Paul preached the rock. He preached Jesus the Christ. He preached, "There is therefore no more condemnation unto death!" He laid the foundation of Jesus as the Messiah. He came as a special messenger or an apostle. That apostle laid that foundation. In other words, he preached Christ to them and do you know what? Any person that would do that would be walking as a special messenger to those people. That is how it works.

Then they were prophets. The prophet was not a magic anointing that needed to be in the local Church otherwise the Church would magically not work if it's not there. I don't want to call it an office because it isn't an office. Who were the prophets? The Bible says that those who prophesy are those who can take the mystery and put that mystery into common language. Prophets would also prophesy. Prophecy would be when somebody prays in a tongue and there's an interpretation. In other words, Paul called that prophecy. The Bible says that he who prays in a tongue, prays in a mystery. He would be able to take what is a mystery, and the bible says, that the mystery which was once hidden, which is actually Christ, Christ in you the Hope of glory. That Christ, that Messiah, the fact that Jesus was the Messiah was a mystery. People didn't understand it. They didn't understand that God had to come and save man from sin and death. They thought that God had to come to save man from the Romans or physical oppression. What happened here? A prophet comes and he would say, "I can prophesy or I can actually take that which is mysterious in the Old Testament prophets, which was hidden there, and I can reveal it and I will speak words of edification, exaltation and comfort to the Church.

So what would happen is a guy like Paul would come into a place like Corinth and he would preach Christ to them. Then among those, or from another place, people would come which would be prophetic. In other words, they would come and they would encourage the Body with great words wherein this mystery is spoken of clearly. Plus they had a gift of telling the future in people's lives. So here was somebody who could actually explain and teach the old prophets and explain those prophets revealed. If you go and read the Greek, it talks about a prophet is someone who can reveal the oracles of God. The oracles in the Bible talks about the writings of the Old. A prophet is somebody who can study and take Jeremiah, can take Isaiah, can take Ezekiel, and reveal Christ, reveal the One who has conquered sin of man, to them where they will not live by the Law System anymore. They will seek freedom from their sin by obeying commandments. That's what the prophet would do and then on top of that would be the gifting of telling people, prophetically, what can happen in their lives... prophetic events, futuristic things that will happen in people's lives in the here and now or next week. Like in the Book of Acts they prophesied about a famine and those kind of things and people could prepare for it. Prophets could do that. I also believe the prophets could say and see where the Church would go and prophesy about the resurrection of Christ and so forth.

Again, what was the work of the apostle? The apostle laid the foundation. In other words the apostle was the guy who went to a town and just preached Christ as the One who conquered their sin and death. The prophet was somebody who would continue to elaborate on that truth yet he had the gifting of encouraging and exhorting people. Then we would find teachers, people who would come and take this truth of Christ and teach it from the scriptures to the people. We would find pastors who would see these people that are now gathering around this Truth and shepherd them and help them and encourage and make sure that they continually stay in this Good News as he continues to preach the foundation Christ. We would find evangelists, workers of miracles, and all those kind of things and all people that are part of showing forth and manifesting and showing Christ the Messiah, the One who has conquered sin and death as the truth about man so that the Spirit can manifest life in people. That is what it means.

Ephesians 2

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. This is basically saying that the Jews and the Gentiles were both included in the Christ.

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

Some people will say, "You see, that passage means that Jesus is the cornerstone and the prophets and the apostles are the rest of the foundation." No, that is not what it means. The narrative, the story, the analogy that he is getting to here is he is using a building, a physical building. He's trying to explain things in the lines of a physical building because people are too immature to simply understand the simple truth. The reason why I say that is the context of 1Corinthians:3 where he said, "I'm using this analogy of a builder and those kind of things because you have become so dull of hearing that I actually have to come in the fleshly, materialistic, way and try to explain something spiritual to you." The sad thing is that the Church uses that language and continues to live in that language and never get to the understanding of what that is all about. Church, it is all about Paul coming and saying, "You are now not strangers but you are fellow citizens of the household of God."

He's telling the Gentiles, "You don't have to go and be circumcised. You don't have to go and follow the customs of Moses to become part of the household of God." He said, "You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and the prophets," which I just explained which is Christ for all people since all sinned and Christ took all sin upon Him, everybody was put under Him as the Messiah of all people. Because He is the Messiah who rules over sin and death means He rules over everyone who has sin and death. Those who accept His rulership find the power of that kingdom manifesting in the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.

Then it says, "In whom Christ, the cornerstone, in whom is also the foundation." What he is saying is, "Listen, we've laid the foundation of Jesus as the Christ." The foundation that he is referring to in Ephesians is that the Gentiles are included. The mystery is revealed. The Gentiles are included. That is the foundation where on all this is built. That's the foundation on which the Church at Ephesus was the revelation of, "We are included in the Messiah! Christ is the beginning and the end. It's all about Him ruling over my sin and death."

Ephesians 2:

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom you also are built together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Christ living in you brings forth His fruit. That is the building. That's how God lives in you.

1 Corinthians 12:

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

28 And God has set some in the church, first to be apostles, secondarily to be prophets, thirdly to be teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings...

Then he comes and says, "Do you see here we find apostles first, prophets second and that talks about an authoritative structure." No, it doesn't! It just says that apostles came first and there were people that God sent with a special message that taught Christ. Then people came and they were teaching further in Christ and so forth and so forth. That is what it is talking about. It doesn't talk about an authority structure. As a matter of fact, if you teach verse 28 from an authoritative structure, I want to say to you that you are grossly misinterpreting the scripture! You are destroying the context of **1 Corinthians 12:28**. That is what you are doing! You are destroying all of that.

The context of verse 28 was that some thought that apostles are more important than prophets and they were basically a hierarchy. Then he comes in **1 Corinthians 12** and he says that it doesn't work that way! Everybody is equally important! So if you use that in that context I don't know what the motive would be for that. It is talking about the Church being established inside Jesus! Glory to God!

Church, that is what I have on my heart for you today. Know that the only foundation where you can have a true life is the foundation of Christ as the foundation of no condemnation, no death, because He is the Messiah! Glory to God!

I trust that you have enjoyed this. It was a bit of a line upon line teaching and I trust that this will encourage you and keep you away from just things that are simply not just the truth. Know that the only maturity that can be in a person is Jesus, the Christ!