

The Chief Cornerstone

Scriptures

“The stone [which] the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.” (Psalms 118:22 NKJV)

“Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD’S doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes?’” (Matthew 21:42 NKJV)

“This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’” (Acts 4:11 NKJV)

“Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief [cornerstone],” (Ephesians 2:20 NKJV)

“Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, ‘Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.’” (1 Peter 2:6 NKJV)

Commentary

The cornerstone was the first and most important stone laid in a foundation. All the later stones would be laid in reference to it. If it were not true and level, you would have a crooked building, one more likely to fail in the course of time.

It is important for believers to cling to their foundation, Jesus is that foundation. He is true!

Unfortunately believers sometimes begin to rest against other less stable objects. For some the church and her busyness become substitutes for the true foundation. This is not a conscience thing, but a subtle shifting of priorities. As they say, the squeakiest wheel gets the most grease. The urgent needs of others and the endless tasks begin to consume all of one’s time and energy. This results in slothful or no personal Bible study and prayer. However, because it is all for a good cause, the believer excuses his/her lack of attentiveness. Soon he/she will find that service is a burden, and resentment will replace what were once feelings of love.

Do not forsake your foundation. You must remain diligent in your personal Bible study and prayer. As it is written, “I am the vine, you [are] the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5 NKJV).

I recommend that you find someone to hold you accountable if you lack discipline in this area. Christ must abide in you richly if you wish to bear much fruit. Remember, without a good foundation the building will be crooked. Start a regimen of Bible study and prayer today.

Prayer

Father, help us to overcome the temptation to put off our personal Bible study to help others. Jesus had thousands He could help at every waking hour, but even He spent time alone with you in prayer. Make us children of prayer. Cause us to cling to our foundation which is you. We are but dust Lord, forgive our waywardness and lead us in the way everlasting, amen.