

The Sure Foundation

Intro: Isaiah is called the Messianic Prophet because of all the many different prophecies he made concerning Christ. In 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.” he gives us a sure foundation upon which we can rest. Let us look at this sure foundation in this lesson.

I. THE PLACE WHERE LAID.

A. It is laid in Zion.

B. Zion is a synonym for:

1. The Jewish nation.
2. Jerusalem in particular.
3. This is the dwelling place of God.

C. Jesus was a Jew.

1. It is amazing but true that some deny that Jesus was a Jew.
2. The genealogies prove that Jesus was a Jew.
 - a. Mat. 1.
 - b. Luke 3.
3. Acts 3:22 “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.”

D. Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem.

1. Luke 9:51 “And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,”
2. Heb. 13:12 “Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.”
3. It was that crucifixion and resurrection which proved Him to be the Son of God
 - a. Acts 2:23-24, 36 “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: ²⁴Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it...³⁶Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”
 - b. Rom. 1:4 “And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:”

E. His Law went forth from Jerusalem.

1. Isa. 2:2-3 “And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. ³And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”
2. Luke 24:47-49 “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸And ye are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”
3. Acts 1:6-8 “When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? ⁷And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. ⁸But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
4. Acts 2.

F. God is the one who laid this foundation stone.

1. Psa. 118:23 “This is the Lord’s doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes.”
2. Mat. 21:42 “Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?”

II. THE NATURE OF IT.**A. A foundation stone.**

1. Mat. 16:18 “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
2. 1 Cor. 3:11 “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”
3. Mat. 7:24-25 “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: ²⁵And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.”

B. A tried stone.

1. By Satan.
 - a. The three temptations of Christ embrace all temptation.
 - b. Mat. 4:1-11 “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ²And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. ³And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. ⁵Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, ⁶And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ⁷Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ⁸Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ¹¹Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.”
 - c. Heb. 4:15 “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.”
 - d. 1 Pet. 2:22-23 “Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: ²³Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:”
2. By Men.
 - a. Mat. 22:15 “Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in *his* talk.”
 - b. Mat. 22:16-22 (the Herodians)
 - c. Mat. 22:23-33 (the Sadducees)
 - d. Mat. 22:34-40 (the Pharisees)
 - e. Mat. 22:46 “And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any *man* from that day forth ask him any more *questions*.”
 - f. Men today try Jesus when they place their faith in Him. He still passes the test.
3. By God.
 - a. His whole life was whether or not He would be faithful to God.
 - (1) 2 Sam. 7:14 “I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:”
 - (2) John 13:32 “If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him.”

- b. Jesus did all that God commanded.
 - (1) John 4:34 "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."
 - (2) John 17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."
- 4. He was tried:
 - a. In life.
 - b. In death.
 - c. In eternity.

III. THE VALUE OF IT.

A. Precious.

1. Precious mean "of great intrinsic price or value, very costly or valuable; Highly esteemed or valued, beloved, held very dear." (*Universal Dictionary Of The English Language*).
2. Jesus had this quality of preciousness.

B. Precious to God.

1. He is the only begotten Son.
2. John 1:14,18 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth....¹⁸No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*."
3. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
4. 1 John 4:9 "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

C. Precious To Man.

1. 1 Pet. 2:6-7 "Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. ⁷Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"
2. He is precious because of what He can do for man.
 - a. Save man from his sins.
 - (1) Psa. 118:21-22 "I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation. ²²The stone *which* the builders refused is become the head *stone* of the corner."
 - (2) Acts 13:38 "Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:"
 - b. Redeem man to God.
 - (1) Luke 1:68-69 "Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, ⁶⁹And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;"
 - (2) Tit. 2:13-14 "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."
 - (3) 1 Pet. 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"
 - (4) Rev. 5:9 "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;"

- c. Save man eternally in heaven.
 - (1) 2 Tim. 2:10 “Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”
 - (2) 1 Pet. 1:3-4 “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”

IV. THE POSITION IN THE STRUCTURE.

A. What is a cornerstone?

1. A cornerstone is, “something indispensable, or primary importance; basis” (Universal Dictionary Of The English Language).
2. Jesus is that one who is indispensable and of primary importance.

B. This Stone is the Cornerstone.

1. Eph. 2:20 “And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*,”
2. 1 Pet. 2:6-7 “Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. ⁷Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,”
3. Acts 4:11 “This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.”
4. Psa. 118:22 “The stone *which* the builders refused is become the head *stone* of the corner.”

C. Building Upon anything other than Christ invites disaster.

1. Mat. 7:26-27 “And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: ²⁷And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.”
2. 1 Cor. 3:11 “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”
3. This is true whether we built upon:
 - a. Man; Jer. 17:5 “Thus saith the Lord; Cursed *be* the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.”
 - b. Possessions; Luke 12:19-20 “And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. ²⁰But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?”
 - c. Strength or Might; Isa. 31:1 “Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because *they are* many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!”

V. THE BLESSEDNESS OF THOSE WHO BUILD THEREON.

A. Shall not make haste.

1. 1 Pet. 2:6 “Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.” The ASV has, “shall not be put to shame” (this is how the LXX translates this verse).
2. Rom. 9:33 “As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.”
3. The Hebrew word meant to make haste, then to urge on and then to be afraid or flee as from one who is alarmed and flees to a place of safety.
 - a. There is no need to leave to seek a place that is safer.

b. Thus, there is no cause of alarm, there is peace and safety in Christ.

B. In Christ there is peace and safety.

1. Peace

a. John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

b. Phi. 4:7 “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

2. Safety

a. Heb. 13:5-6 “*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.*”

b. John 10:28 “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.”

Conclusion: Have you built your life upon that sure foundation?