

“Let Each One Take Heed How He Builds”

Introduction

Text: Acts 18:1-11

- 1. Paul established the work in Corinth on his 2nd missionary journey (Acts 18:1-17 - 51-53AD).**
 - A. Wrote 1 & 2 Corinthians on his 3rd journey about 57 AD (4-5 years have gone by).**
- 2. Evidently, other teachers followed, but did not build wisely on the foundation that Paul had laid.**
 - A. Paul built his foundation on Jesus Christ.**

1 Cor 3:10-11 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.

- 3. The result was division, strife, sin and a bad reputation for the church in Corinth.**

Condition at Corinth

- 1. They were following men.**
1 Corinthians 1:11-12; 3:4; 4:6

- 2. There was strife and envy.**
1 Corinthians 3:3
 - A. Paul was trying to get the brethren to see and understand that although it took men to bring the good news, one was to follow the teachings, not the man.**
 - 1) Teachers, preachers, elders, and deacons because of position can be instruments of much good or much harm. James warns:**

James 3:1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

- 2) As one teaches, converts, and teaches again, he is building. Therefore, we must give a lot of thought and consideration as to How we are building and WHAT we are building.**

The Future of the Church Depends on How We Build

- 1. We first have a responsibility to keep the temple holy. **You AND Me**
1 Corinthians 3:17**
- 2. Preachers have a responsibility also. Weak preaching produces weak members, in doctrine and in morals.**

Titus 2:1 But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:

- A. People are what they are taught to be, thus the need for healthy strong teaching in all areas.**

1 Tim 4:16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

- 1) If the church is to remain sound in doctrine and clean in morals we must take heed how we build.**

How Should I Build?

- 1. I can't preach "self." Paul wrote:**

2 Cor 4:5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

- A. Members are weak if they are converted by a preacher or teacher's personality.**
- B. Preachers and teachers must use their abilities, but are not to build the work around themselves. Listen to what Paul wrote concerning this:
1 Corinthians 15:1-4**

- 1) The foundation of Christ must be first and foremost!**

2. I must build not with excellency of speech and enticing words of man's wisdom.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

A. It's important to use correct speech and wisdom, but to remember that one is not a performer, but rather a teacher of the gospel.

3. I am to "preach the word."

2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God....

A. Can't lower the Bible standards to please men.

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

- 1) Teaching and preaching to please our fellow men will fill the church with sin and sinful people.**
- 2) Some may be tempted to do this to be accepted by a majority. A stricter judgment awaits if they do.**
- 3) It often leaves the impression that we don't have to be fully transformed and can conform to the world a little bit.**

Romans 12:1-2

- B. We can't be a partaker of the love of the world a little bit and be pleasing to God ---- as a preacher, teacher, or member.**

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

- C. Paul said that there would come a time when some will depart from the faith.**

1 Timothy 4:1-3

- 4. Preachers can preach it, Teachers can teach it, but it is up to each and everyone of us **to live it!****

- A. We must make up our own minds to stop sinning.**

Conclusion

- 1. Each and everyone of us must take heed how we build on the teachings of Christ.**

- A. We can have an attitude of compliance or an attitude of resistance.**

- 1) We have complete choice.**

- 2) But remember, we will face God in the judgment explaining the way we built.**

- 2. May we all take heed how we build.**

