

GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR A CHRISTIAN BUILDING  
Ephesians 2:8-10; I Corinthians 3:11-15

Introduction:

1. Baptists have been accused of not believing in good works, but we do so very much.
2. This passage tells why we are saved.
3. Paul told the Corinth church some things about building according to God's blueprint that the lost and saved need to know.
4. Let us note some things about God's blueprint.

I. THERE IS ONLY ONE ACCEPTABLE FOUNDATION.

A. Many people want to use the foundation:

1. Turn over a new leaf.
2. Be baptized and join the church.
3. Good works, clean up outside of the cup.

Illustration: Good works . . . Man on an airplane.

B. Jesus Christ is the only acceptable Foundation.

There is none other,

Scripture: **I Corinthians 3:11** *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”*

II. A BUILDING IS REQUIRED OF EVERY CHRISTIAN.

A. No Christian is excused.

1. Some say, “I know I should and I want to, but I'm afraid I'll build the wrong kind of building.”
2. All Christians are building . . . want to or not.

The Bible says that “Every man's work shall be made manifest.”

Scripture: **II Corinthians 5:10** *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”*

B. When does the Lord require this building to be started?

1. After every fleshly desire has been satisfied.
2. From the moment of salvation we begin to build . . . good or bad.

Illustration: A. J. Heinz . . . (Christian Service)

III. MANY ARE BUILDING WITH THE RIGHT FOUNDATION BUT WRONG BUILDING

A. Lost people cannot build an acceptable structure.

1. They have no foundation.
2. They have no acceptable material with which to build.

Scripture: **Matthew 7:22-23** *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”*

3. The very best the lost man can do is the work of iniquity.

B. Saved are all on the work of building.

1. Some are building that which will stand.
2. Some are building that which will burn.

C. The one that shall stand in that day of judgment and fiery test shall be motivated by:

1. Love.

- a. Without love it is mere noise.  
Scripture: **I Corinthians 13:1** *“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.”*
- b. Without love it is nothing.  
Scripture: **I Corinthians 13:2** *“And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.”*
- c. Without love it profits nothing.  
Scripture: **I Corinthians 13:3** *“And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”*
- d. How very often people do God's business;
  - 1. Without any love.
  - 2. Unconcerned, neglectful, without any real interest . . . cold as ice.  
Illustration: The Iced Bell . . . (Christian Service)
- 2. For the glory and honor of God.  
Scripture: **I Corinthians 10:31** *“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”*
- D. The one that shall be burned is motivated by:
  - 1. Children, habit, or society.
  - 2. They have the right foundation but build structure of;
    - a. In consistent, indifferent attendance at church.
    - b. These put Jesus' church after everything else.
    - c. They will do as they please, but JUDGEMENT will come.
- E. All have a job to do and all are important.  
Illustration: Parable of the tools (Christian Service)

Conclusion:

- 1. What kind of building are you building?
- 2. Check your life and look at yourself as others see you.
- 3. What kind of Christian are you?