

## THE CROSS OUR FOUNDATION: Pastor George Everard – 07/08/2011

**Reading: Job 38:4** *"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?"*

### Introduction

1. Foundations are important in any form of building – to have a strong building; you must have a strong foundation
  - If we are going to have an effective Christian walk, we must check our foundation, our belief system.
  - The only foundation strong enough we can build upon is the foundation of the Cross, Jesus Christ.
  - 1 Peter 1:20 says that Jesus was chosen from the foundation of the earth to be our salvation.
2. Job became somewhat arrogant in his approach to God as so do many who approach God today.
  - We are quick to question God regarding life and what life has thrown at us.
  - Job could not, therefore, have aided God, or counselled God, or understood what God was doing.
  - Like most of us who try to Counsel God regarding life and the way He should answer our prayers!
3. So the next time you question God or try to give the counsel you feel He needs, ask yourself the question put to Job; *"Where were you when God laid the foundation."*
  - If Job had an understanding of what God was doing, he would have had the revelation of the foundation!
  - Paul understood the purpose of the Cross as the foundation to life when he declared; ***"I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."*** (Gal.6:14) Our foundation to eternal life!

### SHOCKING STATEMENTS OF JESUS

1. Statements we make can shift people either on or off their foundation: for the good or the bad!
2. Jesus made some shocking statements;
  - Love your enemies; Pray for your enemies! We don't even pray for our friends – never mind our enemies!
  - He said if someone wants your coat; give them your shirt also!
  - He said pay your taxes even if you are over taxed!
  - He said that you should always forgive no matter how many times you have been wronged!
3. If you are looking for people to follow you, that is not the foundation you will build on – you will say the opposite!
  - You will rather say we must defeat the enemy, not love them or pray for them or pay taxes!

- 4. Jesus was extreme in His teaching – He understood that He was the foundation that gave eternal life.
  - The followers of Jesus had just come from a miracle meeting with Jesus – 5000 were fed by Him.
  - Those who followed Him were looking for a King – what a King who could feed them!
5. In John 6:51, Jesus says He is the bread of life – that statement one can accept but He makes this statement; ***This bread is my flesh, ...***
- That statement made by Jesus shifted those who followed him off their foundation!
  - They looked for another to follow – demand to great!

### **JESUS OUR ONLY FOUNDATION**

1. Job was not the only one that was shifted off his foundation, those who followed Jesus found this statement offensive!
  - As you continue to read the story found in John, you find that after that statement, many left Him.
  - If you leave Jesus, then you leave to follow another but Jesus was established before the foundations of the earth, who is there to follow?
2. Once they allowed their foundations to be shifted, they began to plot His crucifixion.
  - It was on that day as Jesus stood before Pilate and the very ones He fed, they cried out for Barabbas to be freed – cried out for Jesus to be crucified.
3. Doubt will always shift your foundation – causing your life to become unstable!
  - We all go through season and some seasons cost more and even hurts more at time.
  - Often these dry season create serious cracks in our foundation – like Job, we begin to question God!
4. Look at Gideon, he was a man that was found by God in a wine press threshing wheat!
  - To separate the chaff from the wheat you need to be in the open – you need the wind to do the job for you!
  - Fear drove him underground – caused him to do the same thing over and over again without results.
  - If you are not on a Christ foundation your life will constantly collapse around you!

### **TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?**

1. A movement is built around people who are on the move, moving forward with you not away from you!
  - After the statement that Jesus made regarding the eating of His flesh and drinking of His blood – His followers looked for another to follow.

- Peter has a revelation as Jesus turns to His disciples and asks; ***"You do not want to leave too, do you?"***
- Peter's reply; ***"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."***

2. Peter knew that Jesus was the foundation to eternal life – He would go on to make the statement;  
YOU ARE THE CHRIST!

- Peter knew that if he had to leave with the crowds, he would have to go in search of another to find the answers to eternal life!
- So many Christians build on wrong foundations that cause part of their lives to collapse around them.
- The prosperity message is great but it does not give eternal life – the doctrines of demons are informative but do not provide eternal life.

3. The Cross is the only foundation that will secure eternal life

- Temptations; Trials; Turbulence; Turmoil are all part of our daily walk.
- If our lives are built on the foundation of Jesus, no matter how severe they become, our foundation will hold. To whom shall we go? Where were we?
- To remain firmly on the foundation of Christ we don't focus on the question but on the answer – Jesus Christ!