If the Foundations be Destroyed; What can the Righteous do?

If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? (Psa. 11:3)

Let's First Define What is Our Foundation

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 3:10,11)

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. (Eph. 2:20)

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

(2 Pet. 1:20.21)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

(2 Tim. 3:16,17)

God's Warning Since the Beginning of the Church

The scriptures have been warning us since the beginning, but most have been very foolish and not payed attention. Over and over the scriptures warn us about satanic deception and blindness but people keep living their lives as if God didn't exist or has no relevancy in our lives today! Even in the so called Church sad to say! (Hosea 4:6): Satan has not changed his tactics of deception and yet people in every generation continue to be deceived and follow satan into Hell. This is unacceptable when the Word of God is everywhere to be found.

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you:

whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (2 Pet. 2:1-7)

Satan has deceived the people into thinking that God's Grace is a License to Sin or to Disobey. He's convinced the false Churches that the God of Heaven is an Old Man who is blind to sin or to weak to do anything about it! Friend, that could not be further from the Truth! God is a Cleansing Fire who will Judge every sin you ever committed. God is no fool to be mocked (Gal. 6:7,8)! God will judge all sin either in Jesus or in you... but all sin will be Judged! God is Holy and sin cannot exist in His presence. Heaven is God's dwelling place, there is NO SIN THERE!

From this Point on; I'd Like to Examine Two Entities in God's Church

- 1. True Believers in the Church
- 2. True Shepherds, Elders, and ministers of God's Flock

1. True Believers in God's Church

God is coming back for a Glorious, Holy, Victorious Church (Eph 5:27). He will not come back for an unholy Church that is defeated by satan and his demons. This would mean that Jesus and the Holy Spirit failed God! This is impossible as we all know! So, let's look at (examine) what the Real Church looks like.

The Four Pillars of the TRUE Church

- 1. <u>LOVE</u> (John 14:21, 1 John 4:20, 3 John 11)
- 2. <u>HUMILITY</u> (Prov. 15:33, Acts 20:19, Jam. 4:10, 1 Pet. 5:6, Mic. 6:8, Mal. 4:1) (Psa. 51:17, Is. 66:1,2), Psa. 51:, Matt. 5:3-12) NASB
- 3. <u>OBEDIENCE</u> (1 Sam. 15:22, Heb. 5:8, 2 Cor. 10:5, Rom. 1:5, Rom. 16:26)
- 4. <u>POWER</u>. (Acts 1:8, & 6:8, Rom. 13:1, 1 Cor. 1:18, Eph. 1:19, Matt. 28:18-20) (Luke 9:1, 10:19, 24:49)

your spiritual power will be based on how well you manage the first Three!

I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives.

The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord. Jesus Christ. So I want to remind you, though you already know these things, that Jesus first rescued the nation of Israel from Egypt, but later he destroyed those who did not remain faithful. And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment. And don't forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns. which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God's judgment. In the same way, these people who claim authority from their dreams live immoral lives, defy authority, and scoff at supernatural beings. But even Michael, one of the mightiest of the angels, did not dare accuse the devil of blasphemy, but simply said, "The Lord rebuke you!" (This took place when Michael was arguing with the devil about Moses' body.) But these people scoff at things they do not understand (Hosea 4:6). Like unthinking animals, they do whatever their instincts tell them, and so they bring about their own destruction. What sorrow awaits them! For they follow in the footsteps of Cain, who killed his brother. Like Balaam, they deceive people for money. And like Korah, they perish in their rebellion. (Jude 4-11) NLT

For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (Eph. 5:5-16) ESV

Pay close attention to the above scriptures!

1. for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

notice you were the darkness not in darkness! this means you were the darkness itself, you yourself made up the darkness. you were a contributor not a participant!

- 2. and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. notice discernment comes from the Holy Spirit. This uses God's Word to order your steps (who to marry, who you are in Christ and what is your service to Him, how to discern and avoid satan's traps). etc...
- 3. when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. when we live in His light we can see things as God sees them. your ministry and fellowship with God will be very fruitful (Gold, Silver and precious stones). 1 John 1:7:
- 4. Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. here Jesus is talking to the dead heads who are sleeping in Church and wasting their lives away!

2. True Shepherds, Elders, and Ministers of God's Flock

Many in leadership positions Covet Power, Money, and Authority in the Body of Christ; Stealing the Glory from Christ ... Let me say something very important here that most people don't know or understand! After over 40 years of missionary work, and the discernment of the Holy Spirit and scriptures, I think I have figured out satan's secret plans to destroy God's Church. You see, satan cannot defeat the True Church with the Holy Spirit inside, so, knowing that, he switched to a more diabolical clever deceptive tactic. He said to himself, since I can't defeat the True Church because of it's overseer (The Holy Spirit) I'll send savage wolves among them from my church to mingle in with them (Matt. 13:24-30). That will confuse the weak and feebleminded among them! And weaken God's True Church! In all the Churches God has allowed me to minister in, that's exactly what I have seen. Many are not saved and can't even discern that the Holy Spirit is not in them. And some are even in the leadership! There is nothing you can do except love them and try to explain what the Gospel really is! God is the One that brings them to Christ!

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:28-35) 4

And now, a word to you who are elders in the churches. I, too, am an elder and a witness to the sufferings of Christ. And I, too, will share in his glory when he is revealed to the whole world. As a fellow elder, I appeal to you:

Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don't lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example. And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor. (1 Pet. 5:1-4) NLT

False Shepherds and False Prophets

This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes. They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. They keep saying to those who despise me, 'The LORD says: You will have peace.' And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts they say, 'No harm will come to you.' But which of them has stood in the council of the LORD to see or to hear his word?

Who has listened and heard his word? See, the storm of the LORD will burst out in wrath, a whirlwind swirling down on the heads of the wicked. The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he fully accomplishes the purposes of his heart. In days to come you will understand it clearly. I did not send these prophets, yet they have run with their message; I did not speak to them, yet they have prophesied. But if they had stood in my council, they would have proclaimed my words to my people and would have turned them from their evil ways and from their evil deeds. (Jer. 23:16-22) NIV

Then this message came to me from the LORD: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds, the leaders of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign LORD: What sorrow awaits you **shepherds who feed yourselves instead of your flocks**. Shouldn't shepherds feed their sheep? You drink the milk, wear the wool, and butcher the best animals, but **you let your flocks starve**.

You have not taken care of the weak. You have not tended the sick or bound up the injured. You have not gone looking for those who have wandered away and are lost. Instead, you have ruled them with harshness and cruelty. So my sheep have been scattered without a shepherd, and they are easy prey for any wild animal. They have wandered through all the mountains and all the hills, across the face of the earth, yet no one has gone to search for them. "Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: As surely as I live, says the Sovereign LORD, you abandoned my flock and left them to be attacked by every wild animal. And though you were **my shepherds**, you didn't search for my sheep when they were lost. **You took care of yourselves and left the sheep to starve**. Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD. This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I now consider **these shepherds my enemies**, and I will **hold them responsible** for what has happened to my flock. I will take away their right to feed the flock, and I will stop them from feeding themselves. **I will rescue my flock from their mouths**; the sheep will no longer be their prey. (Ezek. 34:1-10) NLT

These men are <u>blemishes</u> at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm <u>shepherds who feed only themselves</u>. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted twice dead. They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever. (Jude 12,13) NIV

And now I make one more appeal, my dear brothers and sisters. Watch out for people who <u>cause divisions and upset people's faith by teaching things</u> <u>contrary to what you have been taught</u>. Stay away from them. Such people are <u>not serving Christ our Lord</u>; they are <u>serving their own personal interests</u>. By <u>smooth talk</u> and <u>glowing words</u> they <u>deceive innocent people</u>. (Rom. 16:17,18)

NLT

PAUL'S MINISTRY The Churches Example

But thou hast <u>fully known my doctrine</u>, <u>manner of life</u>, <u>purpose</u>, <u>faith</u>, <u>longsuffering</u>, <u>charity</u>, <u>patience</u>, <u>Persecutions</u>, <u>afflictions</u>, which came unto me at <u>Antioch</u>, at <u>Iconium</u>, at <u>Lystra</u>; <u>what persecutions I endured</u>: but out of <u>them all the Lord delivered me</u>. Yea, and <u>all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution</u>. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (2 Tim. 3:10-15)

So you can see we were not preaching with any deceit or impure motives or trickery. For we speak as messengers approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts. Never once did we try to win you with flattery, as you well know. And God is our witness that we were not pretending to be your friends just to get your money! As for human praise, we have never sought it from you or anyone else. (1 Thess. 2:3-6) NLT

Don't be selfish; **don't try to impress others**. **Be humble**, thinking of others as **better than yourselves**. Don't look out only for your own interests, but **take an interest in others**, too. You **must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had**. Though he was God, **he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to**. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; **he took the humble position of a slave** and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he **humbled himself in obedience to God** and **died a criminal's death on a cross.**

(Phil. 2:3-8) NLT

It's true that some are preaching **out of jealousy and rivalry**. But others preach about Christ **with pure motives**. They preach because **they love me**, for they know I have been appointed to defend the Good News. Those others **do not have pure motives** as they preach about Christ. They preach **with selfish ambition**, **not sincerely**, intending to make my chains more painful to me. But that doesn't matter. Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice.

(Phil. 1:15-18) NLT

As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but instead we were like children among you. Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children. We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too. Don't you remember, dear brothers and sisters, how hard we worked among you? Night and day we toiled to earn a living so that we would not be a burden to any of you as we preached God's Good News to you. You yourselves are our witnesses and so is God that we were devout and honest and faultless toward all of you believers. And you know that we treated each of you as a father treats his own children. We pleaded with you, encouraged you, and urged you to live your lives in a way that God would consider worthy. For he called you to share in his Kingdom and glory. (1 Thess. 2:6-12) NLT

And you must show mercy to those whose <u>faith is wavering</u>. Rescue others by <u>snatching them from the flames of judgment</u>. <u>Show mercy to still others</u>, but do so with <u>great caution</u>, <u>hating the sins that contaminate their lives</u>.

For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Cor. 4:5-18) NIV





