

The Cornerstone

Job 38:1-6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

The scripture readings from the 38th chapter of Job presents us with two wonderful revelations. First there is no visible nor tangible stone intended in this sixth verse. What we're to understand and embrace, is the fact that a sovereign law of God is at work here, it is the promise and will of God that what He established, though not visible to the eye, nor touchable with the hand, there is a corner stone and it *is real*.

In the book of Zechariah God through the prophet begins to teach us the wonders of this cornerstone. Zech 10:3 Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats: **for the Lord of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah**, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle. Zech 10:4 Out of him came forth the corner, out of him the nail, out of him the battle bow, out of him every oppressor together. The Lord tells of His visit to His flock, and just what was the purpose of His visit?

It was of course to set things in order, things that had been neglected by the shepherds of the flock. Not only was His visit to correct the direction of the flock but to provide them with the necessary tools to fight the good fight of faith. He would be to them a *battle bow, a nail*, or as Isa 22:23 states “a nail in a sure place” and of course that *cornerstone*; Oh this stone may not seem to compare to the others as a weapon of righteousness, but its value in our daily fight for truth and right goes beyond comprehension.

We found in the text of Job that God has a law that governs the universe, by this law the universe is held in place. Zechariah told us God had a flock that need His help and direction, we are assured by His Word that this help would be provided. Where was this help directed ? Toward Israel or to be more direct (the house of Judah).

Isa 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.

Isa 28:17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

When we read or speak about a cornerstone most generally our thoughts are of a stone that gives support to a building and that is a true statement. There is however another important aspect to the cornerstone and that is one of keeping the building square. You could have the most beautiful of cornerstones and the building be a complete disaster. The purpose of the cornerstone is not only that of support but for alignment. The Lord is very emphatic about the necessity of a structure that is “foursquare Rev 21:16”

Isa 28:17 says He is going to lay a line for judgment and righteousness to the plummet, in other words this house will be one that is biblically correct, and in line with purpose and plan of God

Hear are the important points that we know about God's cornerstone. It is invisible, it is real, it is a point of origin, both for direction and stability, and it WORKS.

To place this cornerstone in Zion would require altering some of the aspects associated with the stone. The stone would now become visible, yet it would not at its appearing be a supporting stone, but one rather of measurement. In other words men would now behold this stone with their eyes they could even touch it with their hands, the invisible was now manifest among men. Their lives from henceforth will be gauged by the lines from this stone. Zech 1:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

Isa 28: 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept on precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. Once the Lord appeared ones walk before God would be based upon the life that He lived.

You could measure your stature before God by how you emulated HIM.

Because of the significance of the cornerstone, it must be a stone of precision, the stone itself must be measured and formed to assure that it was precise, fitly framed so to speak. When God took on the form of man “the man Christ Jesus” the humanity of Christ must be subjected to the perfecting process needed to make this cornerstone accurate and reliable, sure and steadfast, thus began Jesus walk among men.

He would be touched by man, scrutinized by observation, doubted, lied about, disbelieved, questioned, believed upon, loved and cherished, scorned, mocked, betrayed, beaten, and killed. A true test for His humanity.

Isa 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief : Isa 53:4 he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: Isa 53:5 he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, Isa 53:10 it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief : when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin.

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet **learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;**

The smoothing and shaping of the cornerstone was not an easy nor pleasant experience, if He was to be the mediator between God and man all aspects of life must be touched upon Heb 4:15 but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Truly this forming process though hard to endure was of untold value to mankind.

Isa 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: 1 Peter 2:4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious ,

Throughout the testing and proving period The Man Christ Jesus held steadfast and unmovable, His enemies and critics never finding those flaws they so desperately hoped for, the more they tried to hold Him up for ridicule, the more popular He became. What were they to do with this Jesus, who was slowly yet surely destroying the way of life they loved so, they must by some means do away with Him.

What they could not foresee was the time had come that this stone being rejected by the builders was being readied to assume the next important phase of its being.

Jesus gave a preview of what was to come in John 2:19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple , and in three days I will raise it up. But destroy it they did.

The final grooming and polishing used to make this stone most precious was the hardest and cruelest work of all

Luke 22:44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar , he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

God's masterpiece, the precious tried and true stone was now ready to become the head of the corner. Three short days later after being buried in the ground God began to be manifest the power that lay in this stone; it became visible again: but only for a brief period of time; then suddenly the visible presence of Him was gone, but as God had shown in Job 38 that corner is very much there and very real.

The glory and wonder of this marvelous plan lies in the fact that though its inception and purpose was all about Him, Jesus never built upon this stone, He called others who would.

By the same Spirit that dwelt in Him **they** began to build the “spiritual house of the Lord” Eph 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

1 Cor 3:10 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.

1 Peter 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God for that marvelous CORNERSTONE and the wise master builders that have built upon it, the men of God in my life that have directed my efforts in building my house unto God. For each of us as the scripture states must build upon this foundation. Whenever there is doubt or confusion with the building of your house go back to those lines that were set forth in Jerusalem and the foundation of the Rock of Ages laid there, everything can be made right again. Let the word of God be the plummet in your life and you can build a house that will be pleasing unto our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; the author and finisher of our faith.

**THANK GOD FOR THE MAN CHRIST JESUS
(THE BLESSED CORNERSTONE)**