

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

The strongest and truest foundation that any of us can build our lives upon is the Word of God. Yet, the struggle is understanding how all of it applies to our lives. I have noticed that as you look upon church denominations, that almost everyone has strengths that they bring to the people of God. Unfortunately though, many people are convinced that they need nothing more than the piece of truth that they have discovered or uncovered; and that anyone else who thinks or believes other than themselves is wrong or in error. Sadly, this has brought in a tremendous separation into the body of Christ! If there is one thing that I am convinced of, it is that no one single church or denomination has everything figured out when it comes to God or His Word. Look with me again at verse 21-22, **²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.** This house or church that we are all being built into is much bigger than our little church or ideology. The focal point, center piece and foundation is not you or me, it's not even our denomination or traditions; it is Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Living God!!

Consider with me **Romans 15:20, And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, that I might not build upon another man's foundation.** Even the Apostle Paul recognized how challenging it can be talk to someone about the things of God, whose foundation or understanding is different from your own. Often people are more concerned in protecting their traditions, than they are in discovering if those traditions are Biblically sound. Unfortunately, people have become so lazy when it comes to the things of God, that they blindly believe everything they hear from their church pulpits. Unlike the Bereans who went and studied out for themselves; today's Christians or believers simply hook into a feeding tube at church, and hope that what they are hearing is valid and true. Many churches have strayed so far from God's Word that what is being taught from the pulpit is complete and absolute lies!! You may ask, "How can a young Christian or new believer know what is true or what isn't when it comes to the Bible"? The most honest and simplest answer I can give is that you need to study and see what God has to say concerning the question or issue. Does God in His Word advocate abortion, absolutely not? Does He advocate homosexuality, absolutely not? Does God the Father say that there is any other way to heaven outside of His Son, absolutely not? So why is such trash and lies being promulgated from church pulpits today? Because, many people want to believe that such things are true, and many ministers are deceived and are leading their people straight to hell. So what about the differences where there is no sin, such as faith, Sabbath worship, believing in tongues, healing and miracles, when Christ will return for the church? Church, I am convinced that God never intended His people to divide as we have; so what will it take for us to come together corporately to worship Him? When can we lay down our differences and lift up the one thing that all of us believers have in common, Jesus Christ??