

Ministry Certification

Christ Foundation
Ministries, Inc.
"Building God's People on a Firm Foundation"
2 Tim. 2:2

Program

The Foundation

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The Foundation of the Church



“...in the natural order, the first and most important feature of any permanent structure is its foundation. The foundation sets a limit to the weight and height of a building to be erected upon it. A weak foundation can support only a small building. There is a fixed relationship between the foundation and the building.”

-Derek Prince, *The Spirit-Filled Believers Handbook*, pg. 28., para. 24

“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...”

-Isaiah 28:16

“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.”

-1 Peter 2:6

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**“For other foundation can no man lay than that is
laid, which is Jesus Christ.”**

-1 Corinthians 3:11

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“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock...”

-Matthew 7:24-25



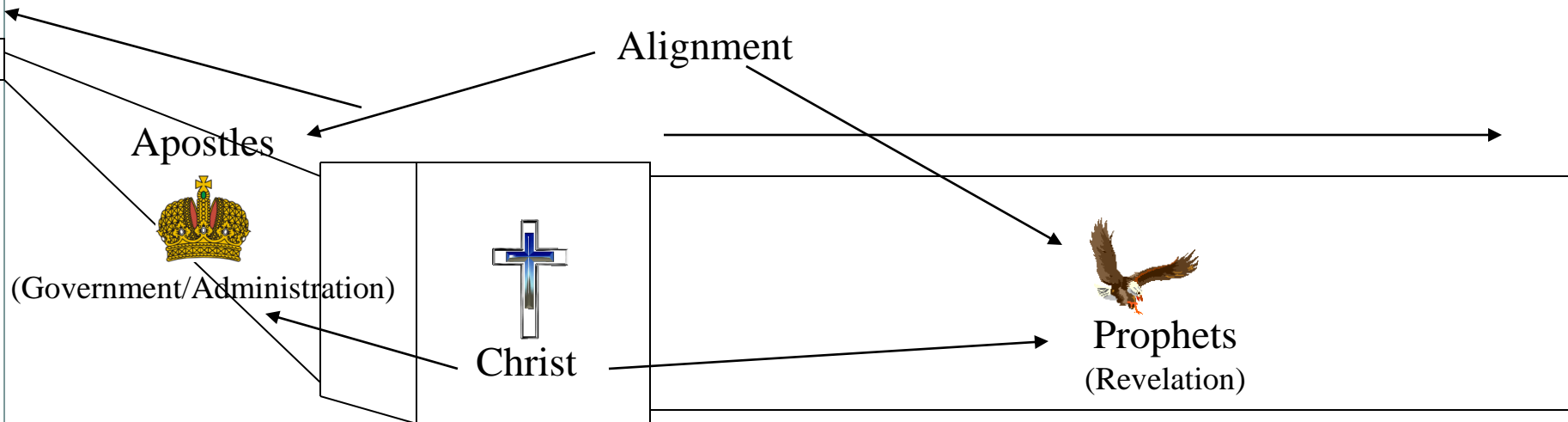
According to Matthew 7:24-25, the foundation of the church rests on two important things:

- *Hearing* the sayings of Christ

- *Doing* the sayings of Christ

Jesus says that any individual or organization that does these things is founded upon Him and is secure in Him...

When a building is built, the foundation is laid first. But before the foundation is laid, the cornerstone must be set in place. The cornerstone defines the alignment of the foundation, and insures its straightness. Therefore every stone in the foundation must be in line with the cornerstone. (*1 Peter 2:5*)



Cornerstone

“And are built upon the **foundation** of the **apostles** and **prophets**, **Jesus Christ** himself being the chief corner stone...”- Eph. 2:20



The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

-Psalm 18:2

“Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.”

-Psalm 62:1-2

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The Foundation of the Individual Christian Life

Matthew 16:13-18-

13: When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14: And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15: He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16: And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17: And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18: And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

We have seen that Christ is the Rock, the foundation. But it is not Christ in isolation or abstraction. Matthew 16:13-18 shows us that Peter had a definite, personal experience with the Lord Jesus Christ. There were 4 successive stages in this experience:

Confrontation

A direct, personal confrontation of Peter by Christ. Christ and Peter stood face-to-face. No other human being played any part at all in the experience.

Matt. 15:16- “He saith unto them, But whom say **ye** that I am?”

Revelation

A direct, personal revelation granted to Peter. This was not the outcome of natural reasoning or intellectual understanding. It was the outcome of a direct spiritual revelation granted to Peter by the Father Himself.

Matt. 15:17- “flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but **my Father** which is in heaven.”

Acknowledgement

A personal acknowledgement by Peter of the truth which had thus been revealed to him.

Matt. 15:16- “Thou art **the Christ**, the Son of the living God.”

Confession

An open and public confession by Peter of the truth which he had acknowledged.

Matt. 15:16- “Thou art **the Christ**, the Son of the living God.”

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Through these four experiences, Christ becomes for each individual believer the rock upon which his faith is built.



Romans 10:8-10-

8: But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation..

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