

Houses we are Building

Today I want to speak about different spiritual houses we are building. A house is an identification of where, and what, and who we are. The Lord himself wants to be identified with us and dwell within us. So let's call our first house - a house of devotion.

House # 1 - A House of devotion.

In Isaiah 66:1-2, the Lord asks us a question.

What kind of house will you build for me, where is place of my rest?

Let's read it: Isaiah 66:1, 2, (we are his temple)

“Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is [humble} contrite spirit, and trembles at my word.”

In these verses, God is saying, I have made everything in heaven and earth, but there is one thing I want you to make for me?

Build a house for me. You are the temple of the living God.

I want to dwell in you and find my rest in you.

Remember, - Christ in you is our hope of glory. Col. 1:27

So, is the Lord living comfortably within us?

Are there things in our life that make him uncomfortable?

Are we thinking godly thoughts? What about our speech?

Are we listening to good music?

Are we listening to the wrong programs?

The Lord wants to live comfortably and enjoyably within us.

In Isaiah 66:2, he tells us what kind of a house he wants to live in. Someone with a soft repentant spirit, who greatly respects his word. The Lord does not want to live in a hard, unteachable heart. He does not want to live in a heart filled with worldliness. But in someone who loves his Word and ways, and thoughts. He wants someone very compatible with himself.

Every house must be built upon a good foundation

Here is Christ's definition of wisdom.
To hear the Words of God, - and to obey them.
It's like a man who's building his personal life on a solid foundation.
And when the storms of life beat upon his house, he will not collapse.
He is built upon a good and firm foundation.

Matthew 7:24-25: "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.

It does not matter how beautiful a building looks on the outside.
If it is not built upon a good foundation, eventually it will fall.
The foundation of our personal life, must be obedience to God's word.

One of the greatest contradictions in the Bible

Is the life of King Solomon. He wrote 3000 Proverbs.
But disobeyed all of them. Jesus warned, to hear his words.....
But not obey them, you become a very foolish man, building on sand.
Your house will collapse, and great is the fall of it.
Let's read Matthew 7:26-27:

**“And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.”
Matthew 7:26-27.**

So we want to build a beautiful house of devotion, where the Lord feels totally at home within us, where there is a great compatibility. Let's talk about another house now. Our own family.

House # 2 - A House - Our Own Family

Society is a collection of many homes and families. When the home and marriage become corrupt, all of Society becomes very corrupt. Why did God have to destroy the earth with a flood in Noah's time? Why did God have to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah? Because marriage and the home were destroyed. Last week was Father's Day. We talked about prisons. Why are prisons filled with criminals? Most of them are fatherless. Crime, gangs, riots, are often the result of having no fathers.

Born out of wedlock, unwanted, passed around, on welfare. Getting into gangs, crime, not loved, not taught godly principles. This is the reason, America is in terrible condition today. The home and marriage has been greatly diminished. And what do the fatherless produce, more out of wedlock children. We are told in Genesis, everything reproduces after its own kind. In the natural, a cow reproduces a cow, a horse produces a horse. The sins of the fathers are reproduced in the children. Godly, often reproduce godly children.

My message to young people is this:

Keep yourself morally pure,

Wait for God's time and choice for a marriage companion.

Build your life and home on a good foundation.

Godly parents produce godly children. We reap what we sow.

Sow godly seeds when you're young. When you're older, you'll reap.

**Purpose of marriage, To produce godly qualities and characteristics:
to prepare us for our heavenly bridegroom.**

Kindness, forbearing, forgiving, understanding, Patient, Wise.

Be good to your spouse. He that loves his wife loves himself, Eph. 5:28

“So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.”

Build a good home. Be good to your spouse, produce godly children.

Be a good example, spend time with your children and spouse.

Make God number one in your home.

House # 3 -

A House - we are a part of a local church

Paul tells us: “we are fitly framed together” Eph. 2:21

We are members one another. The church is like a body with many members. “every joint is to supply”. Ephesians 4:16.

We are a family with many members. We are part of each other.

We need each other, we are not to compare ourselves with each other.

Every part of the body is important. We must learn to fit together.

We’re not to be an isolated person, detached from the rest of the body.

The whole Bible is summarize in two things: loving God, loving people

Our maturity is based on our ability to get along with other people.

We must love and forbear one another. Together, we are God’s temple.

House # 4 - A House of Ministry - near and far

If we are building God a personal house of devotion...

If we are building our own family and home well...

If we are relating well to our local church family....

Then God will help us build another house -

He will make us spiritual fathers and mothers to many others. Wow!

1 Timothy 3:4-5, to have positions of leadership in the church: we first should rule our own house well, having godly children, For if we cannot rule our own house, how can we care for Gods house.

But sometimes this house of ministry extends to many places,

And sometimes to places near and far, and even overseas.

Some are called to be spiritual fathers and mothers to nations.

My wife and I travel to many countries, and teach there.

But our church at home prays for us.

By their prayers, they also have an inheritance in other countries.

House # 5 - Our Life's Works

Our life's works is likened to a house. Christ is the foundation.

What we build upon this foundation, is our life's works,

We will be rewarded for our works, if done God's way. 1 Cor. 3:11-14

“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward
1 Corinthians 3:11-14, KJV.

Unfortunately, on the day of judgment, many works will be burned up, because they were not done Gods way. Christ is our foundation. Wood, hay, and stubble, are works done man's way. All burned up. Too many works done supposedly for God, have wrong motives. Gold, silver, precious stones. Divine attributes, works done God's way This is a house of our life's good works, and they remain. There's a great reward for this.

House # 6 - Our New Resurrected Body

Remember, our body is the house we live in.
Someday we will be resurrected. We want a better resurrection.
There are differing degrees of glory in the resurrection. 1 Cor.15:41,42

“There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. 1 Corinth 15:41, 42, KJV.

2 Cor. 5:1-2. “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:”

As we live an obedient life, we are investing in our new body.
We will be quickened in glory at the resurrection ...
To the decree we have allowed God to subdue evil in our mortal body.

Hebrews 11:35 - “others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:”
People seeking a very easy life, we'll not have a better resurrection.

The apostle Paul said in Philippians 3:11 - If by any means, I might attain unto the out-resurrection from among the dead.

**In 3:14 he was pressing toward the mark, for the prize, the high calling
What is the high calling God - to have a better resurrection.**

To be as close as possible to the Lord for all eternity.

As we die to self, something is being planted in our mortal flesh.

We are investing in a better resurrection.

This is the house we are going to live in for all eternity.

House # 7 -

Our eternal mansion in heaven

Jesus said, in my fathers house are many mansions. John 14:2.

**Jesus also said - lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven. Mt.6:20-21
“lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”**

We are to invest in our eternal mansion in heaven.

Do not be so taken up with your earthly home,

But invest in your eternal home in heaven.

Some years ago, a pastors daughter was taken to heaven one night.

She was shown her father or mother mansions. They were Beautiful.

Her parents were godly, were not living for this life, but the eternal.

Then the angel said, now I want to show you your mansion.

When they arrived to the site, all she saw was a few building materials.

The angel said, this is all material you’ve given us to build your house.

From that time, she started living a very different life.

She started investing in the invisible world. Living a godly life

Laying up treasures in heaven. (Ex. woman who criticized pastor)

House # 8 - Our eternal position in heaven

Daniel was told, you will stand in your lot at the end of days.

“But go thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.” Daniel 12:13, KJV.

A Lot it is a specific place or identity or territory.

Each of us will stand in our lot, at the end of time.

We want a position Close to our beloved Lord.

We want to look upon beautiful face.

In heaven, some are great in the kingdom of heaven,

And some are the least important in the kingdom of heaven. Mt.5:19

It all depends on how we've spent our short life here on earth.

We are not in competition with each other.

Everyone does not have the same reward,

Some have lived a very sacrificial life, a godly life. Even martyred.

Others have been far less dedicated to God.

Maybe only having a deathbed repentance.

The reward in heaven will be very small.

Let's use the short time on Earth, to invest in the next Life.

The next life is eternal. Let us be building all these houses.

- **A Personal House of devotion. We are his temple**
- **Our own family and home. We produced like kind**
- **Fit together with our brethren in our local church building.**
- **Expand our house of ministry, even to those beyond our area.**
- **May All Our life works be built on the foundation of Christ, his way.**
- **Our new resurrected House, our body: • Our mansion in heaven.**
- **Our special lot and position in heaven, next of the Lord.jh**