

Nine Parable Teachings

1. A Parable: Follow The Instructions

There once was a world wide company that had local plants in almost every city and village in the world. Its board of directors had an open door policy. Any of the plant managers or the workers could write or call about suggestions to improve productivity or to discuss any problems about the plant or plant personnel.

All the plants had a written book of policy that the managers were to follow in order to make the finest product in all the world. All products produced were of the same quality and met the specifications set up in the book of policy.

A problem of change began to occur that was not authorized in the policy manual. Some of the plant managers started talking and meeting together discussing ways to change production and the final product. They thought they could institute these changes unknown to the board of directors to save time and work in producing the final product. Other managers world wide heard about these changes and meetings. They also met and made changes in production convincing the workers all was okay and the finished product would still meet specifications.

Everyone thought they were doing excellent work by making the changes. Now the managers and production workers had more time off. They did whatever their hearts desired. They ran here and there chasing their own desires and fulfilling their wants. The board of directors saw all of this going on and never said a word to anyone in the plants for a long time. The board saw and knew that the product had become imperfect and did not meet the original specifications. By now the board had their own plans to correct all that is wrong. When the plan is implemented there will be great cries of anguish among the managers and plant workers, for it will mean back to the policy manual.

Matthew 24:44-51 **44** *You also must be ready all the time. For the Son of Man will come when least expected.* **45** *"Who is a faithful, sensible servant, to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his household and feeding his family?"* **46** *If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward.* **47** *I assure you, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns.* **48** *But if the servant is evil and thinks, 'My master won't be back for a while,'* **49** *and begins oppressing the other servants, partying, and getting drunk--* **50** *well, the master will return unannounced and unexpected.* **51** *He will tear the servant apart and banish him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*(NLT)

The Spirit spoke this to me in prayer and said make it a parable: "The Church is making Christians, but leaving them to wither and die, for the Church is

weak, immature and lacking itself. ” The above parable is the result of what the Holy Spirit spoke. Then the Spirit started asking me questions and making statements---Does the community fear the Church? Does the Church fear God or man? Look at yourself--Are you living the Word or talking about the Word. Do you have heart love or head knowledge? Pastors, leaders—What is your daily time in the Word, prayer and fasting? Are you living the Word or giving it lip service? Are you a good or poor example for the sheep? For the sheep follow and do what the leader does--good or bad. Live the Word and God will come alive from the pages of his Word. Believe like children--accept God’s Word as it is written and follow God’s Word.

***Psalms 50:16-23** 16 But God says to the wicked: "Recite my laws no longer, and don't pretend that you obey me. 17 For you refuse my discipline and treat my laws like trash. 18 When you see a thief, you help him, and you spend your time with adulterers. 19 Your mouths are filled with wickedness, and your tongues are full of lies. 20 You sit around and slander a brother-- your own mother's son. 21 While you did all this, I remained silent, and you thought I didn't care. But now I will rebuke you, listing all my charges against you. 22 Repent, all of you who ignore me, or I will tear you apart, and no one will help you. 23 But giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors me. If you keep to my path, I will reveal to you the salvation of God."* (NLT) Added 02-08-02.

***Isaiah 42:13-15** 13 The LORD will march forth like a mighty man; he will come out like a warrior, full of fury. He will shout his thundering battle cry, and he will crush all his enemies. 14 He will say, "I have long been silent; yes, I have restrained myself. But now I will give full vent to my fury; I will gasp and pant like a woman giving birth. 15 I will level the mountains and hills and bring a blight on all their greenery. I will turn the rivers into dry land and will dry up all the pools.* (NLT) Added 06-28-02

***Isaiah 56:10-11** 10 For the leaders of my people--the Lord's watchmen, his shepherds--are blind to every danger. They are like silent watchdogs that give no warning when danger comes. They love to lie around, sleeping and dreaming. 11 And they are as greedy as dogs, never satisfied. They are stupid shepherds, all following their own path, all of them intent on personal gain.* (NLT) Added 08-15-02

The Lord has shown that he has been silent and in his love, grace and mercy he has let things go and all think there are no problems. God has his thoughts, ways, and plans and it will be by his Word and obedience to his Word. Amen.

**A Parable: The Missing Parts
(What Does It Take To Commune With God?)**

I saw a friend talking on a CB radio to his good buddies. I wanted to do the same. Now I did not know much about this so I went to a radio store and purchased a microphone to talk to my good buddy. With great anticipation and excitement I took the microphone home. I unwrapped the mic and pushed the mic button as my friend had and called my good buddy. To my amazement nothing happened and I wondered what was wrong.

I went back to my friend and I explained my problem. He said that I needed a CB radio to plug my mic into. Immediately off to the store I went and purchased a CB radio. I went home and plugged that mic into it and called my good buddy. To my amazement nothing happened. Off to my friend's house I went with my radio and mic. I told him that it does not work. He said, see the wiring hanging from the back of that radio? Yes, I see it. Well you have to hook up that wire to the power source before the radio and mic will work. He explained I needed a power supply to plug my radio into at home for it to work.

Boom, off I go to the store and purchase a power source. Arriving home, I plugged in the power supply, hooked up my radio and turned it on. Sure enough the radio lights came on and the radio made a hissing noise. Excited, I call my good buddy. BUT nothing happened. What is the matter? I have a mic, a radio, a power source hooked up and the radio lights up, but I cannot not talk to or receive any one. Something is wrong.

I went back to my friend's house. Explaining my problem to him, he asked one simple question. Do you have an antenna mounted on your house for the radio? What I ask? He explained that the antenna was necessary for the radio signal to get out to my good buddy and for me to receive a signal back from my good buddy. To the store I went and purchased the biggest and best home antenna they had. I installed the antenna on the house. Now I am really excited, for I am going to talk to my good buddy.

Check list--mic-okay, radio-okay, power supply-okay, antenna-okay. Lets do it. Radio on, lights on, hissing noise, key mic-xmitt light on. I yell, hey good buddy do you hear me? I wait and nothing, I called again and no reply. What is the matter, I have done all I was told to do, but no response from my good buddy. Back to my friend's house I go. Explaining all I have done, he listens, thinks and asked this question. Do you have a coax run between the antenna and the radio to make the connection? I said a what? He very patiently explained what a coax was and what it was for. It makes the connection and carries the signal back and forth between the antenna and the radio.

As I started to blast off to the store, my friend said STOP and wait a minute. He said you could have saved yourself a lot of time on this project, if you would have only stayed around long enough to hear all of my advice at one time. Then he explained how the complete system works as a whole and any one part missing will hinder the results your are trying to achieve. Then he proceeded to draw out a diagram on how the hookups were to be and explained the operation of the system. I went to the store for the coax. Upon installing the coax, I called my good buddy, and he answered and we communicate all the time. *John 4:23-24* **23** *But the time is coming and is already here when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for anyone who will worship him that way.* **24** *For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." (NLT)*

3

A Parable: The Parallels

Once upon a time a single girl gave birth to twin boys. Unable to support the boys, she gave them up for adoption. The boys were separated and adopted by two different families who were separated by many miles. The boys were raised by Christian parents in good loving homes. As the boys grew up they each **chose** a different path in life.

One boy **chose** to make a name for himself in the world of business. He was ambitious, smart and was willing to take short cuts to be successful and to rise to the top of his profession. He lied, cheated, and used people; as one wears clothes and throws them away when they are no longer beneficial to the wearer. His marriage to his childhood sweetheart was in shambles, as he went lusting after other women on his climb to success. As he was reaching his goals of success, alcohol began to control his life and drinking consumed his health and wealth. As he hit bottom, his past caught up with him and the crimes he committed on obtaining success landed him in prison. His wife filed for divorce, leaving him a broken man spiritually and physically. Shortly thereafter he died and went to Hell for he never received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

The other twin boy **chose** the world of business also. He accepted Jesus Christ during his teen years and God was always first in his life. He always sought God for direction through prayer. Guided by the Holy Spirit he graduated from college with top honors in his field. By always putting Christ first in his life, God blessed him with a business, a wife, family and many friends. Because he let the business world know where he stood with Jesus Christ, he lost many contracts and jobs. He would not take bribes or bend the rules. By standing firm on the foundation of Jesus Christ and putting God first in all his business ventures, he was

always blessed by God. He and his wife lived to a ripe old age. They died and went to heaven.

During our physical life on this earth

If we choose God	If we chose the devil--
We will	We will
Live for Christ.	Live for the world.
Love Christ.	Love our self only.
Seek Christ.	Live the way we want with no restrictions.
Suffer for Christ.	Suffer from our sins.
Be blessed by Christ.	Have no heavenly blessings.
Live a long and healthy life.	Live by the rules of the world. Die beaten and broken.

All die a physical death on earth and will have eternal life, but where? Depends on which tree we eat the fruit of.

Tree of life gives-	Tree of knowledge gives-
Eternal life in heaven,	Eternal life in hell,
with love, peace, and joy.	with suffering and misery.

4

A parable: The Run Away

There once was a small child and he talked to God in child like ways and it seemed right to him. As he became a teenager, he forgot about his talks with God. During all this time he very seldom attended church and his parents did not know Jesus. In all of this, God never forgot this little child and the conversations the

child had with Him. God set this child apart while he was still young and always had His angels about him protecting him and waiting for a day in the future when He would call him forth. The young man knew there was always something different about himself than the others he knew and grew up with. He could never quite understand that difference and what made him tick on the inside.

He married at a young age, because he knew the woman he came to love was the one for him. He never saw or understood God's hand was at work in his life. It was God who selected the woman he would need during his many years of marriage. The chosen woman always stood for and believed in Jesus and lived by example and a witness to Jesus. As he grew older he came to resent God, Christians, and churches. But God never gave up on him and had many Christians praying for him. During this phase of his life God was always opening doors and showing Himself and was inviting the man into his Kingdom even though he resented God.

In his later years, he had given up in this life, because he thought he had seen all and done all there was to do in this world. The Devil was having a great time with this man and was planting all kinds of thoughts in his mind. You are done on this earth, just give up let the disease that has had made you ill all these years take in toll. The man in his self pity was buying this story and had almost given up. But God had not given up on this man and he put more people into his life and showed him a new light that the man had not been seen before. The man saw Jesus at work in other people's lives through the example of the lives they lead and gave all the credit to God. He saw the light of Jesus and accepted Jesus Christ into his life.

For fifty some years he was a run away. He ran from God, despised God, and wanted nothing to do with God. But God had a plan for his life and never gave up implementing that plan. Now this man runs hard toward God, seeking God, accepting all God has to offer and wants more of God daily. And God is supplying all his needs according to His riches in Jesus Christ for he has put God first in his life in all he does. He is still set apart and now understands why he is a little different from everyone else, for he has a job to do for God. He loves God and all of God's creation.

No matter what your age or your past life or the sins you have committed, it is never too late to confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and He will forgive you and confess you before the Father. Amen

A Parable: A Marine is Made

Young boys who have just graduated from high school many times don't know what life is all about or what they want to do with their lives. In the summer after his graduation one such boy started running with the wrong crowd and got into trouble with the laws of the land. Instead of serving time in jail for the offense, he agreed to the judge's offer of joining the marines. There was one condition. If he failed and was booted out of the marines, he would have to serve the jail time that had been suspended when he joined the marines and he would then have a record.

As with most boys he had the look of the world upon him in his dress, mannerism and speech. Upon arriving at marine basic training his life took a sudden and shocking turn. He had to obey the Sergeant in charge of his platoon and speak when spoken to, told when to eat and when to sleep and always with sir, yes sir at the beginning and the end of his speaking. He was also cut off from the world that he knew and had left behind.

At first he resented this change in life and wanted to quit, but he knew what was waiting for him back home. During the first week in training after a hair cut and new clothes, he began to accept the routine of basic training. As the pride and spirit of the marines were instilled in him, his spirit came alive and receptive to this new way of life. He began to eat, breath, and think marines twenty four hours a day.

He excelled in all areas of his training and was promoted to squad leader of the platoon. He came to know the weapon of issue for the marines, the M16 rifle. He could take the weapon apart and put in back together blind folded in the shortest time of his platoon. He was trained and eagerly learned all phases of weapon usage. His Sergeant told him that in times of battle, he must know his weapon, its capabilities and what it could do to save his life. The marines held nothing back in his training or what laid ahead in times of battle and that he could even be killed. He also learned that the platoon was a body that functioned together for strength and safety.

After graduating from basic training, the young man had leave to go home and see his family and friends. Arriving home, all who came into contact with him knew what he represented and he had pride and honor that shined and radiated from him. He had new mannerisms, dress and speech. He found that his old friends no longer wanted to hang out with him, because he would not follow and do the things of the past. When leave was up, the young man was eager to report to his new duty station and do what he was trained to do.

Training was a way of life for him. He knew without training, he would become inadequate for the mission assigned to him and when trouble came it could cost him his life. For he knew what could and does happen in battle for the marines held nothing back in his preparation and training. With training he had the edge that could carry him through the battle and serve with honor and distinction. *Matt 24:44 44 You also must be ready all the time. For the Son of Man will come when least expected.* (NLT)

6

A parable: The Two Boxes

Most all young boys desire to have a puppy to love and train. One such boy received a puppy for his sixth birthday. During the summer the boy and the puppy bonded to one another and were inseparable until the boy started back to school that fall.

Each day after school that first week the young boy could hardly wait to get home to play and romp with his puppy. The puppy had to stay outside on a chain beside his dog house each day while the young boy was at school, but was set free upon arrival of his master. As the school year progressed that young boy began to make new friends in school and spent much time in the homes of his new friends. The puppy began to get neglected and only got a pat from the young boy as he fed and watered his puppy each morning.

A wall of separation began to build between the boy and his dog. Instead of being a joy to have, the dog was now a time robber. He still had to take care of his dog, and that meant more time from his friends and their activities. The dog was never allowed to grow and mature to do what dogs are meant to do and that is to be a friend and companion. The dog's life was on the end of a chain. He was fed and watered once a day, but had no relationship with his master.

One cold and snowy night, the dog died from a broken heart, loneliness and his master's neglect. Only after the death of his dog, did the boy realize his lack of compassion for the friend that he had spent time with in summer before school started. For now the boy knew his dog only wanted love and friendship from him. And his dog would have given his all to serve his master.

What is your position with your Lord Jesus Christ? Have you put yourself in a box of world activities and Jesus Christ in another box? Does a wall of separation exist between you and Jesus? Do you peek out of your box into the box you put Jesus in when you have a few minutes of time once a day or once a week? Take the time to tear down the boxes in your life and take the time to seek Jesus in prayer and the Word of God; for the world and all that is in it will fade away.

Jesus Christ is forever. Serve Jesus with your all and give nothing to the world except the love of Jesus Christ.

7

A Parable: Rainbows

A rainbow is a thing of beauty and splendor. A rainbow is a promise made by God. Where is the rainbow in your life? Have you kept your promise to God? How do you see a rainbow? Is it by the sun only? Is it by the clouds and rain only? What does it take to make a rainbow?

We are all to be rainbow makers. To see a rainbow it takes the sun, the clouds and the rain together. Taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world, we are sunshine by the light of Jesus. The clouds and rain of the unsaved mixed with our sunshine brings rainbows for God to see when the unsaved accept Jesus into their lives. That is how we are to make rainbows for God.

Do you have sunshine in your life with Jesus? Or is your sunshine turned to clouds and rain for lack of Jesus being first in your life? Sunshine only comes for us when we put Jesus first in the morning at midday and at night. Sunshine comes only when we spend much time in our prayer closet seeking Jesus. Sunshine comes only when we spend time in the Word of God and obey the Word. Sunshine only comes when we love our neighbors as ourselves. Sunshine only comes when we speak out of our mouths that which is edifying, that is may minister grace to the hearer, and grieving not the Holy Spirit. Sunshine only comes when we speak the truth of the Word of God in love and growing up into the Lord Jesus Christ in all things. Sunshine only comes when we let the peace of God rule in our hearts and refuse to worry about anything. Sunshine only comes when we let not the Word of God depart from before our eyes for it is life to us and health and healing to all of our flesh. Sunshine only comes when we go forth as a believer with these signs following us; in the name of Jesus casting out devils, speaking in new tongues and laying of hands on the sick and they recover.

Be a rainbow maker. Seek you first the Kingdom of God and all other things will follow. Take the gospel of Jesus and speak it with boldness into the world making sunshine. Mix it with the clouds and rain of the unsaved and make a rainbow for God. God gave his promise with a rainbow. Let us keep our promise and make rainbows for God. You reap what you sow. Are you sowing clouds and rain or sunshine? Be a light unto the world, the light of Jesus Christ and set yourself apart from the world. Let your sunshine shine and blind the world.

8

A Parable: A King Who Ruled Many Nations

There once was a king who ruled many nations. An island nation was rebelling against the king. He called his general, the commander of his army and **commanded that he go** to the island and squelch the rebellion. The next day the general came to the king. He said long live the king and sir you gave me authority to go to the island but how do I get there? The king issued orders for him to go to the boat dock **and take the battleship** and sail to the island. Upon arriving at the dock the boat was there but no crew to sail it. The general again requested an audience with the king. He spoke long live the king and sir I have the authority and the means to go to the island but no crew to sail the ship. The king issued the decree **to his naval commander to make the ship ready** for the general and his army and obey his commands. He sailed and with his army stopped the rebellion.

We as Christians must follow the Word of God to be successful in our kingdom work. There is the pattern we must adhere to before we go forth according to the word of God.

First we must do Romans 10:9-13 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.* ¹¹ *For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.* ¹² *For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.* ¹³ *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* (KJV) This gives us the authority to do the works in the name of Jesus Christ.

Second we must do Matthew 16:19 ¹⁹ *And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.* (KJV) This gives us the means to do battle.

Third we must have power to complete the job. *Acts 2:1-4* ¹ *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.* ² *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.* ³ *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.* ⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.* (KJV) **And Paul writes in Ephesians 6:10-13** ¹⁰ *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might* ¹¹ *Put on the whole armour of*

God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.(KJV)

And Paul writes in Ephesians 6:18 ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; (KJV)

Prayer and supplication in the Spirit is praying in tongues. Paul wrote in I Corinthians 14:18 ¹⁸ I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: (KJV) **Jude 1:20** ²⁰ But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, (KJV)

Is the Word of God true and does not lie? If we disobey the Word of God are we sinning? Are you living the Word of God in you life by following the instructions of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? How can we be sure we belong to Jesus Christ? **1 John 2:3-6** ³ And how can we be sure that we belong to him? By obeying his commandments. ⁴ If someone says, "I belong to God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and does not live in the truth ⁵ But those who obey God's word really do love him. That is the way to know whether or not we live in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did. (NLT)

If we are to obey the Word of God we **must** follow the commands of Jesus Christ as he spoke in the following scriptures **Matthew 28:19-20** ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. (KJV) **Mark 16:15-18** ¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. ¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. (KJV) **Luke 24:47-49** ⁴⁷ And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And ye are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. (KJV) **Acts 1:5-8** ⁵ For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. ⁶ When they

therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? **7** And he said unto them, *It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.* **8** *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.* (KJV)

Acts 2:1-4 **1** *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.* **2** *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.* **3** *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.* **4** *And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.* (KJV)

As we can see Jesus was very clear in his instructions; that none are to go out until they receive power by the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the evidence being speaking in other tongues. This is the word of God. Many will say that tongues died when the apostles of Jesus died or it is of the devil. It is neither for it is in God's Word. Receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues will open our eyes to the Word of God in a new light we never saw before, the Word comes alive. As Peter spoke **Acts 2:16-18** **16** *But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;* **17** *And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:* **18** *And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:* (KJV)

2 John 1:3 **3** *Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.* (KJV) **If we are not in both truth and love, we have not grace mercy and peace from heaven.** What is truth? In Webster's Dictionary truth is "the quality of being in accordance with experience, facts, or reality; conform to fact." The "fact" is the whole Word of God, the complete Word of God, being in obedience to God's Word. As Paul wrote in **2 Timothy 3:5** **5** *They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.* (NLT) So as 2 John says we need both the **truth and love** for God our Father and Jesus Christ his Son to be in us. The truth being in obedience to all God's Word as it commands. Do we have love if we deny the power of the Holy Spirit? For if we have not the truth in us, we have not love for we do not obey God's Word and we are liars. Look again at **1 John 2:3-6** **3** *And how can we be sure that we belong to him? By obeying his commandments.* **4** *If someone says, "I belong to God," but*

doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and does not live in the truth. 5 But those who obey God's word really do love him. That is the way to know whether or not we live in him. 6 Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did. (NLT)

9

A Parable: Foundations

The word I heard in the Spirit today was “foundations”. I picked up my pen and wrote as the Holy Spirit taught by this parable.

“No project that is in the physical or spiritual will last without the proper foundation being laid according to the chief architect. When the cornerstone is not laid correctly, the project will fail. If the chief architect is ignored, the project will fail. If the lines of communication are severed, the project will fail. If the chain of command is not in place, the project will fail. Without the cornerstone, the chief architect, communications, and a chain of command, the workers are without knowledge and wisdom. Without knowledge and wisdom, the project is doomed and cannot be constructed or the workers building in unity. All are tossed about each day as the foundations shift like a boat upon waters in a storm. The foreman on the project calls out conflicting instructions daily. The workers are confused and build upon a shifting foundation, a wobbly house that will fall when the truth is seen and the errors of construction are exposed.

On that day there will be great cries of anger, sorrow, bitterness and sadness when many lives are lost. The project was built upon lies and deceit and half truths. Great will be the fall of the project.

Only projects that are built according to the cornerstone and chief architect Jesus Christ, along with communications from the Holy Spirit, and the chain of command including the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers will the workers build on solid ground in truth, love and unity. Then the project, the living church, will be complete. The church will mature spiritually, as it becomes one with Jesus Christ and the Father, God the creator and ruler of the universe, holy as God is holy. They will be without sin and in obedience to God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and the Word.

Without a solid foundation any project is incomplete. The foreman and workers are incompetent and have no compatibility with the cornerstone. The project is vain and a work of iniquity and sin will abound.” Amen.

Matthew 7:21-29 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied

*in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. **24** 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: **25** 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. **26** 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: **27** 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. **28** And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: **29** For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. (KJV)*

***Ephesians 4:11-16** **11** He is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. **12** Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ, **13** until we come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature and full grown in the Lord, measuring up to the full stature of Christ. **14** Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth. **15** Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. **16** Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. (NLT)*

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