

# The Foundation of The Temple of God

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## ***I. Introduction***

Almost from the very beginning of the Apostolic ministry following the ascension of the Messiah Yeshua, men have endeavored to build that spiritual temple spoken of by the Apostles. The Apostle Paul warned of building on any other foundation except the one laid by God through his ministry. Unfortunately, the warning went unheeded by most. We look around us and we see the result of man's efforts everywhere. We are reminded that unless God builds the building we build in vain.

Beginning the early spring of 1998 and for several weeks thereafter, God began to reveal to me and several of my brothers His plan for the foundation of His house. The revelation resulted in the preparation of a drawing that detailed His plan as revealed to us. During August of 1998 God began to prepare this narrative to go alongside the drawing and incidently to make a few corrections and additions to the drawing. As the Lord has not permitted me to write anything before, I feel very blessed by this commission.

I know that some of what I have written on these pages is from me. I also know that much of what is contained on these pages is from God. If I knew which part I had written I would immediately remove it.

I would also remind you that the revelation that I share is in relation to the plan for the foundation of the spiritual temple of God. He has not revealed his plan for the whole house. God willing, those revelations will also come to the Messianic Community.

Most of the scriptures reproduced in this paper are from the Complete Jewish Bible, an English version of the Tanakh (Old Testament) and B'rit Hadashah (New Testament) as translated by David H. Stern. I have used these versions because I believe that more than any other version that I have seen this Bible has eliminated much of both the English and Jewish bias in translations.

## ***II. The Structural Inspection***

The engineering company where I am employed often gets requests from various sources for structural inspection of buildings or residences. Our inspectors visit the site and prepare reports detailing the structural problems and possible corrections or sometimes give the structure a clean bill of health. As often as not the owner has seen the telltale signs of a problem such as cracks or failures within walls, roof or foundation and knows that unless repairs

are made the failures will become worse. The structural integrity and future use of the building, as well as the very lives of the occupants of the building, are in danger.

In our part of the country almost all structural problems are related to the improper construction of the foundation. When we are involved in designing buildings we conduct a thorough investigation of the area beneath the buildings foundation. We drill holes to determine sub-surface conditions, take soil samples to calculate load bearing capacity and if possible, locate bedrock to support our foundation and building. A building's foundation is best built on a firm and unyielding base.

The physical temples of Yahweh God on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, both past and future, I am quite sure, were and will be built on a firm foundation. God's word tells us that there is another temple; a spiritual temple. What do we know about this temple? One thing we should know is that it must be built on a firm foundation. Scriptures abound regarding this building, this foundation and its construction. It also tells us of the dangers in building this building on an unacceptable base or in an improper manner. I fear that most of those in the world today that profess to a part of that spiritual temple or believe that they are actually building the temple have built it in vain and inhabit a building that is designed for a great fall.

Why would I say this? Because I believe that the Messiah, the cornerstone of that temple, has given me a vision of the foundation for the spiritual temple he is building. With that plan in hand I can conduct my own structural inspections of those buildings now standing around me. I can tell you that in most part the buildings I see do not conform to God's plan and are destined for that great fall.

Man is capable of building great and magnificent structures. With our minds and hands we are able to plan, devise, measure, reason, count costs, correct, improvise and build with great skill. Man's abilities are not diminished one bit when it comes to constructing spiritual buildings. One only has to look around to see the obvious example of man made religions from new age cults to the world's greatest (in terms of number and wealth) religions and belief systems. We are also surrounded on all sides by less obvious examples of man's abilities. It may be that little country fellowship of a major Protestant denomination that meets down the road in that quaint little church building or it could be that high energy, high profile "Christian" fellowship in the midst of mainstream America. It could also be that very visible para-church organization that as likely as not has been built around a charismatic leader who at one time heard from God.

The point I want to make is this, Yahweh God, through the Messiah, Yeshua has been and is currently building a spiritual temple. Construction is absolutely on schedule and the workers have been known by God since the foundation of the world. The work performed by the workers is not of themselves but of Yeshua who dwells within them. Only the finest materials are used in this building, living stones, all of which are in union with the

cornerstone, which is the Messiah. This building is absolutely unique and all the flesh of man has no part in it. It is being built by, for and through the Messiah Yeshua.

### ***III. The Bedrock***

There is much we could say about what God thinks about flesh and the works of it, but we are endeavoring to reveal the plan for the spiritual foundations He is building. In 1 Corinthians Ch. 3, Vs. 10, the Apostle Paul says, *“Using the grace God gave me, I laid a foundation, like a skilled master builder.”* To start at the beginning we must see where and how that wise master builder laid the foundation for the early ecclesia, the called out ones of God. I pray right now that Yahweh God will give us wisdom to also become wise master builders.

The gospels of Matthew and Luke give us a good place to start. Matt. 7:24-25 reports the words of Yeshua as follows: *“So everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on bedrock. The rain fell, the rivers flooded, the winds blew and beat against that house, but it didn’t collapse, because its foundation was on rock.”* Yeshua continues by describing the ill fate of the house built on the sand. In Luke Ch. 6, beginning in Vs. 46 Yeshua describes the situation as follows: *“Why do you call me Lord! Lord! But do not what I say? Everyone who comes to me hears my words and acts on them- I will show you what he is like: he is like someone building a house who dug deep and laid the foundation on bedrock. When a flood came, the torrent beat against that house but couldn’t shake it, because it was constructed well.”* Yeshua in these scriptures has told us three things:

- *We must build our foundation on bedrock*
- *We may have to dig deep in sand in order to find the bedrock*
- *The builder must be sensible because he hears the words of Messiah and acts on them.*

### ***IV. Shifting Sand***

So, let’s get out our shovels and begin to dig in the sand (some translations say “shifting sand” , which is very descriptive of the task that lies ahead). Our wisdom, according to the words of Yeshua, depends upon hearing His words and acting upon them. Therefore, somewhere in the words of the Messiah are found the key to locating that bedrock on which we can begin to build . Indeed there is. In Mark Ch. 12, Vs. 29, Yeshua is asked what is the greatest most important commandment. In His response which was perfect, He quoted Deut. 6:4, *“Sh’mo Yisrea’el, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad (hear, O Israel, the LORD our GOD, the LORD is one), and you are to love Adonai, your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your understanding and with*

*all your strength.”*

This response touches the heart of God and relates to the commandment given by God from Mount Sinai as described in Exodus Ch. 20: *“I am Yahweh, your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the abode of slavery. You are to have no other gods before me”*

This foundational truth as related by God himself teaches that there is **one** God, that we are not to fashion, make, create, worship, call on or have any other so-called god favor us and we are to love the one true God with our entire being.

Okay, without a doubt this great truth gives us the proper place to lay the foundation for our spiritual temple. As we begin to shovel the sand off of this bedrock and sweep the site clean, we find that the sand just keeps running back on us and covering the bedrock. When the shifting sands of man’s doctrines and fleshly creeds cover us and the place we want to build, we begin to walk in all of the Trinitarian quagmire that is so pervasive and confusing. Here is the father and there is the son. While almost all evangelical Christians will agree that there is one God, the reality of that confession is that their concept of the trinity allows them to splinter God and pick and choose which attributes they are comfortable with. Yeshua epitomizes the attributes of God related to love and grace. Since we need all of the love and grace we can get, it is easy for man to fashion a God for himself and call him in the English, Jesus. But Yahweh God, the creator himself is our salvation. **He** is the one full of love and grace, not another god. In order to love him with our whole being, it is necessary that we accept the whole package, not the parts we reason should be our God. How many Christians do you know that are striving to know the God of the Hebrews, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the creator of the universe? Not many, I would think, although this is the God that dispatched the angel Gabriel to Mary and Joseph to announce His own incarnation and the name to be given to His flesh, Yeshua. In this name is a great revelation of our savior, which in the Hebrew means *“Yahweh is salvation”*. Yeshua is the flesh of God and He came to save. Fully grasping this truth, we can allow God to use it as a mighty tool to finally clean all of the shifting sand from the bedrock and go on to lay the foundation of the spiritual temple.

Once again, we can say that there is much, much more we could explore on the subject of the deity of Yeshua and the oneness of Yahweh God. We could describe the first few verses in the Gospel of John as he writes of Yeshua as the creator, as the living *logos* (word) and as God himself. We could also read in Philippians Ch. 2 beginning in Vs. 9 as the Apostle Paul quoting Isaiah Ch. 45 states: *“Therefore God raised Him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name; that in honor of the name given Yeshua, every knee will bow in heaven, on earth and under the earth and every tongue will acknowledge that Yeshua the Messiah is ADONAI.”*

This good confession must be on our lips as God wields the truth as that mighty tool to finally cleanse the bedrock of any trace of shifting sand. Now and only now can we begin to build the foundation of God's spiritual temple.

## V. *Laying the Cornerstone*

The next step in construction is obvious as God lays the cornerstone on the clean bedrock. *"Look! I am laying in Tziyon a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone; and whoever rests his trust on it will certainly not be humiliated."* These are the words of God as written by the Apostle Peter in 1 Peter 2:6 as he quotes Psalm 118:22. In Vs. 7 Peter quotes Isaiah 28:16 *"The very stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;"* and in verse 8 Isaiah 43:20 *"A stone that will make people stumble, a rock on which they will trip."* These very words are echoed by the Apostle Paul in Romans 9:33. This cornerstone that God lays upon our bedrock is the Messiah, the Aleph stone, the Lamb of God. The Apostle Paul in Ephesians 2:20 states:

*"You have built on the foundation of the emissaries and prophets, with the cornerstone being Yeshua the Messiah Himself".*

The prophet Zechariah also speaks of this stone and the cornerstone of the second physical temple. In Zech. 3:9 the prophet writes *"For look at the stone I have put in front of Z'hoshua; on one stone are seven eyes; I will engrave what is to be written on it"*. In Vs. 10 of Ch. 4 Zechariah writes *"So these seven are the eyes of ADONAI that range about over all the earth."* It is interesting to me that the LORD would speak of engraving on the cornerstone. You may have noticed that men like to put plaques of engravings on buildings. These might remind us of the persons doing the building, or politicians responsible for the buildings or maybe a motto in keeping with the purpose of the building. 2 Timothy 2:19 informs us that indeed, God's spiritual temple has an engraving stamped on it- *"Nevertheless, God's firm foundation stands stamped with these words: The LORD knows his own."* Num 16:5 and *"Let everyone who claims he belongs to the LORD stand apart from wrongdoing"* Num 16:26.

So the LORD has laid a precious stone, a cornerstone, the Alpha stone on the firm base of our bedrock truth and good confession and has stamped an engraving on it. Now this is important, because this cornerstone as placed by God has established the plumb lines for the entire spiritual building. Two horizontal lines, and one vertical line can now be set, to which everyone else will be laid plumb and level. Going back to the prophet Zechariah, he states: *"Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hands of Zerabbabel"* (Zech. 4:10). This verse is filled with meaning when we understand the Zerabbabel in Hebrew means *"he who comes out of Babylon"*. Is this not a beautiful picture of God's people who just as Zerabbabel have come out of Babylon to serve as workmen building God's spiritual building? Also, just as Zerabbabel we must take these plumb lines in hand to ensure that as we allow God to work in us in building this building, everything is in perfect alignment with the cornerstone, the Messiah.

Early in this paper we stated that this spiritual building is absolutely unique. One might think that the next logical step in construction would be to begin to lay the stones in union with the cornerstone. But no! Not in God's temple. There is an important first step.

## ***VI. The Mystery of the Pillar***

The stones (living stones) that are laid in union with the cornerstone (Messiah) must be prepared by God. This preparation requires the positional placement of the capstone, the Tav Stone, the stone representing the Kingship, the Headship, the Priestship of the Messiah, Yeshua. Particularly in building God's spiritual temple, the Messiah must be the beginning and the end, the Alpha (Aleph) and the Omega (Tav). It is between these two stones, the cornerstone and the capstone, that God prepares the living stones used to construct His spiritual temple.

It is of this capstone that the prophet Zechariah says "*What are you great mountain?*"

*"Before Zerababel you will become a plain; and he will bring forth the capstone with shouts of 'Grace, Grace' to it."* (Zech 4:7). This is a promise to us all. As we bring forth this stone, which is the Priestly headship of the Messiah, Satan's Kingdom on earth (the great mountains) will be laid low. How important is it that God's people understand this? And how much more so if as most believe, we now live at the time in history when God will consummate his purpose on earth.

From the preceding description and a view of the plan (drawing), one might suppose that the capstone is suspended without support. A closer look, however, reveals the existence of a support pillar that is the very essence or substance of God's people, which make-up this spiritual temple. This pillar of support is the line of trust that connects the Messiah as the Lamb of God, our Savior and Redeemer to the Messiah as our high priest, as our King and our Head. God's words as revealed in scripture regarding this principle of trust, are the most often quoted and least understood of all scripture. Much of this confusion stems from the translation of the Greek word "*pisteuo*" (Strong's 4100) as often used in the gospels and the Apostolic writings. Almost all translations render this word as "believe" or as "believing", when a better translation of the word would be "trust" or "trusting". Man is into belief systems, but God is into **trusting** systems. Somewhere in scriptures is found the phrase, "*Even the Devils believe.*"

It is not important to God that we believe in Him. To me, this is the highest form of man's vanity, to imagine that the Almighty God would need us to believe in Him. He already knows that HE IS GOD, he needs no confirmation from us. No, the key to the principal of trust is found in Romans, Ch. 10 when the Apostle Paul speaks that we are ... "*to trust in our hearts and confess with our mouths*". The main idea here also is that we keep on trusting

and keep on confessing. Look what this better translation does to John 3:16; *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, so that whosoever trust in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life”*

Believing is cheap and easy, just weigh the evidence and make a decision. Perhaps you should just believe what someone tells you. **Trusting** is another matter. **Trusting** involves a commitment to trust the Messiah Yeshua for our salvation and also trust the Messiah Yeshua to will and to work in us as head of His body, our high priest and Sovereign King. **Trust** Requires an ongoing death of our old flesh and a rebirth. Is this not what John Chapter 3 is all about?

The first chapter of Romans, beginning in Vs. 16 really says it all, *“For I am not ashamed of the Good News since it is God’s powerful means of bringing salvation to everyone who keeps on trusting, to the Jew especially, but equally to the Gentile. For in it is revealed how God makes people righteous in His sight; and from beginning to end it is through trusting as the Tanakh puts it; but the person who is righteous will live his life by trust”*.

What more can we say? This great mystery of God is revealed before us. In His magnificent and unfathomable wisdom God has ordained and allowed our trust in Him to bridge the place between His cornerstone which is the Messiah as our Savior and His capstone which is the Messiah as our Head. Romans 9:33 and Isaiah 28:16 says- *“Look I am laying in Tziyon a stone that will make people stumble as rock that will trip them up, But he who rests his trust on it will not be humiliated.”*

When we rest our trust on that stone (Cornerstone) and stand under the Messiah as our Head (Capstone) we are in a position to be an instrument of God’s will, we are in a position to become living stones in His Holy Temple and we are in position as priests of God to become workmen building the temple. As we allow God to place us positionally in this place, Scripture says that we become righteous in his sight.

For a full revelation of this mystery of the pillar of the spiritual temple let us look at where the two stones presently reside. We know that the cornerstone resides on earth, remembering Romans 9:33 and Isaiah 28:16, and that the spirit of the Messiah (salvation, aleph stone) dwells in the hearts of His people on earth. The book of Hebrews speaks of the place where the capstone, the head, the High Priest of our trust was placed. Hebrews 8:1 says: *“Here is the whole point of what we have been saying; we do have just such a cohen gadol (high priest) as has been described, and he does sit at the right hand of Hag’dulah in heaven.”*

So we have the cornerstone on earth in the hearts of His people and the capstone in Heaven. We also have the Messiah manifesting His fullness (both stones) through this bridge, this pillar, the line of trust that is His people who are positionally where God wants them to be. God has ordained that this is the only way in which the fullness of

the Messiah is manifested on earth. His people resting their trust on the execution stake found on the cornerstone and standing under the headship of our high priest. Any other way, regardless of how it might appear, is a counterfeit pillar brought by the enemy.

This pillar, this line of trust, is first manifested as family units, then as the messianic community and finally as priests in the order of Malki-Tzedek. It is God's will that we fill this pillar to the fullest, even to the very throne room of God. Hebrews 10:19 tells us, *"So, brothers, we have confidence to use the way into the Holiest Place opened by the blood of Yeshua. He inaugurated it for us as a new and living way through the pasokhet, by means of his flesh. We also have a great Cohen (priest) over God's household. Therefore, let us approach the Holiest Place with a sincere heart, in the full assurance that comes from **trusting** with our hearts sprinkled clean from a bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us continue holding fast to the hope we acknowledge, without wavering; for the one who made the promise is **trustworthy**."*

So brothers, let us not only rest our hope and trust on the cornerstone which is our salvation, but let us fill this pillar of trust even to the very throne room of God and boldly go before the King our high priest and humbly proclaim to Him; *"We are here, fill our hands with the work of your temple."*

The revelation of this mystery is the fulfillment of the tenth promise to the overcomers as found in Revelation Ch. 3, Vs. 12- *"I will make him that wins the victory a pillar in the Temple of my God and he will never leave it."*

The book of Revelation also speaks of another pillar, a counterfeit, that God will destroy completely. Let us not find ourselves as a part of this pillar. Revelation Ch. 18 speaks of the destruction of Babylon (Bavel the Great) which it calls the mother of whores and the earth's obscenities. Beginning in V. 4 Ch. 18 a warning to God's people is sounded; *"Then I heard another voice out of heaven say:*

*"My people come out of her! So that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not be infected by her plagues, for her sins are a sticky mass piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes."*

These sins that are a *"sticky mass piled up to heaven"* are in the finest traditions of Babylon and are man's attempts to construct a pillar (tower) through his own means and power to the heavens. People of God, can you not see this counterfeit pillar as it exists all around us? Depart from it now, least you be entangled in that *"sticky mass"* and share in that certain judgement that is coming.

## ***VII. Families in Oneness***

Once we have the cornerstone and the capstone in place and the pillar of trust established we can begin to see how God prepares the living stones through which He will build the temple. The key in this process is positional

and begins with headship. Earlier in this paper we said that the pillar, the line of trust is first manifested as family unit, let's see how that works. Beginning in Matthew Ch. 23, V. 8 Yeshua says, *"But you are not to let yourselves be called "rabbi" (teacher); because you have one Rabbi, and you are all each others' brother. And do not call anyone on earth "Father" because you have one Father, and He is in heaven. Nor are you to let yourselves be called "leaders" because you have one leader and he is the Messiah!"* The Messiah is admonishing us in these passages to positionally place ourselves under His headship. We are to call no other "leader" or "rabbi" (teacher) and we are not to permit anyone calling us these things. In I Cor. 11, V. 2 the Apostle Paul writes; *"Now I praise you because you have remembered everything I told you and observe the traditions just the way I passed them on to you. But I want you to understand the head of every man is the Messiah and the head of wife is her husband, and the head of the Messiah is God."* Notice that he says that the head of every man is the Messiah and he begins to establish the line of headship as directed by God from the beginning. In Ephesians Ch. 5 beginning in V. 21 Paul further teaches; *"Submit to one another in fear of the Messiah. Wives should submit to their husbands as they do the Lord; because the husband is head of the wife, just as the Messiah, as head of the Messianic Community is the one who keeps the body safe."* He continues in V. 25; *"As for husbands, love your wives, just as the Messiah loved the Messianic Community (the Ecclesia), indeed gave himself up on its behalf, in order to set it apart for God, making it clean through immersion in the mikveh, so to speak, in order to present the Messianic community to himself as a bride to be proud of, without a spot, wrinkle or any such thing, but holy and without defect. This is how husbands ought to love their wives like their own bodies ; for the man who loves his wife is loving himself."* In V. 31, Paul quotes Genesis 2:24; *"Therefore a man will leave his father and mother and remain with his wife, and the two will become one."* It is quite apparent from these scriptures that headship is not about rule or authority. The Apostle Peter also writes of headship. Beginning in 1 Peter 2:25 through 3:2 he says; *"For you used to be like sheep gone astray, but now you have turned to the Shepard, who watches over you. In the same way, wives submit to your husbands; so that even if some of them do not believe the word, they will be won over by your conduct, without your saying anything, as they see your respectful and pure behavior."* In Vs. 7 of Ch. 3 Peter continues; *"You husbands, likewise, conduct your married lives with understanding. Although your wife may be weaker physically, you should respect her as fellow heir of the gift of Like."*

So what does this all mean? It means that God has positionally placed men, husbands and fathers, as the head of their families under His headship. They are to call **no other person leader**, teacher or father except the Messiah.

In this position they are to love, care for and give themselves up for their wives and families. Giving themselves up means exactly what it says. Nothing should stand in the way of their love and care; not hobbies not careers, not money, not pride, not lust, not friends, not father, not mother, not bad habits, nor anything else. It also means that God has placed men as head of their families as directed and guided by the Messiah himself and God will hold them accountable for this headship.

Likewise, God has placed women, wives and mothers under the care and love of their husbands as directed by the Messiah. You will notice by the scriptures above that being placed positionally in that line of trust is not about spiritual or any other kind of authority or dominance as many would say, but rather is about love and care. You are to willingly submit to this headship of your husband even as you submit to the headship of the Messiah, which indeed is what this is all about.

Children also are positionally placed in this line of trust. In Ephesians, Ch. 6, Vs. 1, Paul says; “*Children, what you should do in union with the Lord is to obey your parents, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother. This is the first commandment that embodies a promise, so that it may go well with you and you may live long in the land.”* In Vs. 4 he admonishes fathers; “*Fathers, don’t irritate your children and make them resentful; instead raise them with the Lord’s kind of discipline and guidance”*.”

We have willingly submitted ourselves as families and so God has placed us positionally in this line of trust under the Messiah; *Now what?* God prepares us to become living stones, ready for placement in union with the cornerstone, the Messiah, as the foundation. In Luke Ch. 20 Vs. 17 Yeshua says; “*Then what is this which is written in the Tanakh, ‘The very rock which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’? Whoever falls on that stone is broken in pieces; but if it falls on him, he will be crushed to powder!*” This scripture actually refers to both stones, the cornerstone on which we are to fall and the capstone which will fall on the unredeemed. So the Lord allows us, **no**, He commands us to fall on that cornerstone which is the Messiah and be broken into pieces. But wait, the point of impact on that cornerstone is the execution stake of Yeshua. He took the fall for us; but we were in Him. Romans 6:8 states; “*Now since we died with the Messiah, we trust (there is that word again) that we will also live with Him.*” In Vs. 11, Paul says, “*In the same way consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God, by your union with the Messiah Yeshua.*” So here we go, Man, Woman, Children, and Yeshua falling on that cornerstone and being broken to pieces. Now that strange verse in I Corinthians Ch. 11:11 makes sense; “*Nevertheless, in union with the Lord neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman.*” Also the verse from Genesis 2:24 and Ephesians 5:31 takes on new importance; “*Therefore a man will leave his father and mother and remain with his wife, and the two will become one.*” The living stones are now prepared by God and are absolutely unique; Messiah, Man, Woman and Children, broken and then coalesced into a building block of God’s temple.

## ***V. The Messianic Community***

Galatians 3:26-29 further describes the work of God on our households and his household as we are broken and prepared into living stones; “*There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor freeman, neither male or female; For in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you are all one.*” We now begin to see how God will fashion

the two sticks of Ezekiel 37 into one. The two houses of Israel, Judah and Ephraim are transformed into that thing called by God in the prophets, *“the Israel of God”* and become one in his hands. In Ephesians 3:5-6, Paul writes- *“In past generations it was not made known to mankind as the spirit is now revealing it to his emissaries and prophets that in union with the Messiah and through the Good News, the Gentiles were to be joint heirs, a joint body and joint sharers with the Jews in what God has promised.”* In Chapter 2 of Ephesians in verses 20-22 Paul also writes; *“You have built on the foundation of the emissaries and the prophets with the cornerstone being Yeshua the Messiah himself. In union with him the whole building is held together and it is growing into a holy temple in union with the Lord. Yes, in union with him you yourselves are being built together into a spiritual dwelling place for God!”*

Wow! Just think about all of this. As we and our families are broken in the Messiah on that cornerstone and coalesced into these living stones we are fitted together in union with the cornerstone and become a part of a great mystery of God. Not even the rulers and authorities of the heavens know the secrets of this mystery. Ephesians Ch. 3 V. 9 states; *“This plan, kept hidden for ages by God, the Creator of everything is for the rulers and authorities in heaven to learn, through the existence of the Messianic community, how many sided God’s wisdom is.”*

## ***IX. The Priesthood***

If all of the above was not enough, there is more. Peter 2:4 says *“As you come to him, the living stone, rejected by people but chosen by God and precious to Him, you yourselves, as living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be cohanim (priest) set apart for God to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to Him through Yeshua the Messiah.”*

So, by submitting ourselves to God and His positional placement of us in that line of trust, that pillar of support and connection between the Aleph (Alpha) and Tav (Omega) stones (heaven and earth) which are the Messiah, we not only become living stones, building blocks in God’s house, and members of His community in union with the Messiah, but also priests of God. We can now fully occupy that pillar and in fact become with the rest of the Messianic Community that pillar that God will use to fully manifest the ministry of the Messiah Yeshua on earth. Through this pillar of trust we can enter into the very throne room of God to receive our direction from the Messiah himself, our head, our teacher and our high priest.

## ***X. The Foundation***

Okay, it is time to look around and see what God has built. We see an exposed clean bedrock, on which is placed a cornerstone. On the cornerstone we see an inscription. The cornerstone also has seven eyes with an execution stake located on top in the center. Resting on that cornerstone is a pillar, which must be a corner pillar. The pillar stretches all the way into the heavenlies (in fact to the throne room of God) and at the top is a capstone. The capstone is identical in size and shape to the cornerstone, on the capstone is a crown.

As we look closer at the cornerstone we see plumb lines that are stretched out, two horizontal lines and one vertical line. The capstone and the cornerstone are in perfect alignment with one another. The pillar has a name written on it; TRUST. As we examine the pillar closely, we understand its' name. It is filled with people that trust Yahweh God. Men, women and children within the pillar are falling on that cornerstone and being transformed into living stones. Other people already transformed and trusting God are moving up and down this pillar seeking and receiving direction from the King and High Priest. They appear as priests themselves.

As the living stones are prepared by God they are fitted into the foundation. The foundation lays before us, each stone of the foundation in union with the cornerstone and in perfect alignment with it. The stones are the same size, but on closer examination we realize that each is different from each other. There is a name on the foundation, it is called the Messianic Community, the Ecclesia, the called out ones of God.

We sense the strength of the structure being built and as other stones are placed we see why this might be. As each stone is placed a mortar is used to bind each living stone to another. The name on the mortar is love (Col 3:14 & 15)

The floor of the temple resulting from the placement of the living stones is perfect, without spot or blemish. We see several items sitting on this floor. One of the items we see is a seven branch menorah with an olive tree on each side. As we peer at this lampstand we are reminded of the letters to the Messianic Communities in Revelations Ch. 2 and the lampstand that sits in the midst of each community. We are also reminded of Zech. Ch. 4 and Isaiah Ch. 11 as we visualize the seven spirits of God represented by each branch of the lamp and contemplate the significance of the two olive trees.

We also see a ladder supported on the pillar extending into the heavenlies. We see messengers of God going up and down the ladder as angels minister to the messianic community. While they are there, the angels ponder, watch and listen as the people of God worship God and assemble together. They marvel at the work that God is doing and seek to understand this great mystery.

## ***XI. The Giftings And Spiritual Authority***

Now that we are beginning to see through the mercy and grace of God, what the foundation of his house looks

like, we can begin to anticipate the plan of the full structure of the house. We now know how God builds and we have plumb lines to guide us. It should be obvious by this time to all that the foundational plan He has revealed does not resemble the counterfeits that man has built around us.

Nowhere are these differences more obvious than in the realm of authority and organization. Man has always been into organizing things and establishing hierarchy and lines of authority. This just seems right to us. I am reminded of the scripture which paraphrased says; *“There seems a way right to a man, but it leads to destruction.”* Of course, the problem with us is that we as a whole are devoid of that primary ingredient of God’s house, **TRUST**. It is almost impossible for us to trust God for our care and feeding so we take things into our own hands to help God out.

In addition to the sins related to our betrayal of God’s trust, we have compounded these sins by perverting God’s word to justify our actions. We have taken God’s word related to the wonderful gifts that He bestows upon the body (His house) and somehow establish offices, organizations and hierarchy. 1 Cor. Ch. 12, beginning in V. 12 says; *“Now there are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit gives them, also there are different ways of serving, but it is the same Lord being served. And there are different modes of working, but it is the same God working them all in everyone. Moreover, to each person is given the particular manifestation of the spirit that will be for the common good.”* You notice that Paul says *“to each person is given.”* When we described the union of the foundation earlier in this paper, we said that the living stones in union with the Messiah were all of the same size and shape, but each appeared different, one from another. You see, there is diversity in the giftings, but this diversity makes up the whole body (foundation or house)). In Vs. 14, Paul says; *“for indeed the body is not one part but many.”* He goes on in the remainder of this chapter to emphasize the equal importance of each part. In Vs. 22 he states; *“On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be less important turn out to be all the more necessary”*. In Vs. 27 he goes on to say, *“Now you together constitute the body of the Messiah, and individually you are parts of it, and God has placed in the Messianic Community first, emissaries; second, prophets; third, teachers; then those who work miracles, then those with gifts of healing; those with the ability to help; those skilled in administration, and those who speak in various tongues.”* You notice that Paul says that *“God placed in the Messianic Community...”* Man is not to place anyone anywhere. The gifting of God is not a career field. When Paul and the other Apostles or early evangelists preached the Good News in an area and God raised up a community of trusters in the Messiah, God also bestowed gifts on that community and these were spontaneously and supernaturally manifested. How different is this from the way things are done today? Organized Christian religion from one end of the earth to the other does things in a remarkably similar manner. The congregations employ professional Christians to stand in their places within the counterfeit “bodies”. They have “Priests”, “Pastors”, “Ministers”, “Preachers” to talk to God for them and come back and tell them what God said. Of course, what God is saying must be brief, simple and uplifting, laced with love, or the stand-in will be quickly replaced. The stand-ins learn very quickly the road to

advancement in the organized church. Like any good organization, the professionals who are trained by professionals, have as a primary goal, the perpetuation and growth of that organization. They point to scriptures such as Hebrews 13 Vs. 17 and instruct their followers to submit and obey them. Scripture says the following; *“Obey your leaders and submit to them for they keep watch over your lives, as people who will have to render an account.”* While today’s professional Christians may have to render an account the word translated “leader” from the Greek is without a doubt referring to the civil authorities. The Messiah Yeshua says *“Let no one call you leader”* and again *“Let no one call you teacher”* and further *“because you have one leader and He is the Messiah* (Matthew Ch. 23).

If any one of us is accepting or bestowing spiritual leadership on anyone except the Messiah Yeshua as He sits on the throne of God, we are sinning greatly. Matthew Ch. 7 V. 21 gives us the words of Yeshua, *“On that day, many will say to me, Lord, Lord! Didn’t we prophesy in your name? Didn’t we expel demons in your name? Didn’t we perform many miracles in your name? Then I will tell them to their faces; I never knew you! Get away from me you workers of lawlessness.”* Did the Lord mean to imply that He did not know who they were? No! He is simply and directly saying that He had no experience in or with them. Brothers I implore you today, if Yeshua does not know you and has no experience in you, go to him now. If others depend on you for their feeding and call you teacher, stop it now and repent. Also remember this, nothing that I said above is meant to discourage the use of God’s gifts in the body; on the contrary, I encourage every member to allow God to develop and manifest these gifts to the fullest. Trust God, who is the author and perfecter of our faith.

Further brothers, if you are reading these words and are entangled in organized religion, the thought in your mind right now is this; *“I will take this to my Pastor and see what he thinks of these things,”* Brother, don’t take it to your Pastor, take it to the very throne room of God, and ask Yeshua what He thinks of these things and trust Him to be faithful to answer you.

## ***XII. Conclusion***

The day of the Lord is fast approaching when the Messiah Yeshua as the Capstone, as our Head, as our High Priest, shall rise up from God’s throne and come to earth in all of His glory and might. Simultaneous with that blessed event shall be the rising away from the earth of the Messiah Yeshua as the cornerstone, our savior and redeemer in the hearts of those who trust Him both alive and dead. As we meet Him in the air in our glorified bodies and return to earth with him, the spiritual temple, the house of God will be completed by that union. I know that as that blessed multitude with the Messiah come to Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, a temple of God will be supernaturally manifested. Whether that temple is physical, spiritual or both, I do not know.

**Shalom,**  
*In the Messiah Yeshua*