



LESSON 7 – FOUNDATION STONES:
PART ONE NOTES

because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

- Acts 17:31 -

CLASS SEVEN: SIX FOUNDATION STONES ~ PART I

I. WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THE THIS CLASSES

- You will learn about the importance of having a foundational understanding of basic Biblical truths and practices as enumerated in Hebrews 6, such as: Repentance, Faith, Baptism, Laying on of Hands, Resurrection, and Judgment.

II. SIX FOUNDATION STONES FOR THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

Hebrews 6 tells us about the “basics.” The scriptures provide a good outline for several key doctrines that are central to Christian faith and practice. These key doctrines or teachings form a solid “foundation” on which to build a Christian life and from which to go on further in Christ to become more like Him.

Each of these important truths also helps define a number of associated biblical practices of believers in and through the local church.

*Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of **repentance from acts that lead to death**, and of **faith in God**, instruction about **baptisms**, the **laying on of hands**, the **resurrection of the dead**, and **eternal judgment**. And God permitting, we will do so. Hebrews 6:1-3*

1. _____ – Essentially a “change of mind” concerning your sin, your life, God, Christ and the world, often accompanied by sorrow for sin and accompanied by a definite commitment to a new life.

- **Repentance** could be said to occur on **three levels**:
 1. **Initial repentance – when you first come to Christ**
 2. **Repentance for sins committed as a believer**
 3. **An ATTITUDE of repentance – walking with a humble, surrendered attitude towards God**

In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. Acts 20:21

Peter replied, Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Note the expressions associated with true repentance in the verse below:

“yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter.” 2 Corinthians 7:9-11

- a) Sorrow
- b) Earnestness
- c) Eagerness
- d) Indignation (against sin)
- e) Alarm
- f) Longing
- g) Concern
- h) Readiness to see justice done

2. _____ toward God

Faith – a trust or reliance upon God. Often could also be translated as “faithfulness.” The classic Bible definition for faith occurs in Hebrews 11:1 – in fact the Greek is actually using a construct similar to a legal definition.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

Faith is a necessary element.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6

Faith is given by God.

For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him Philippians 1:29

“The FAITH” refers to the whole of Christian tenets and practice.

Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 1:3

It can be said that faith occurs on a number of levels:

- **No faith**

Those who are not born again do not have saving faith:

And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. 2 Thessalonians 3:2

- **A measure of faith – believers in Christ are given a measure of faith**

For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith Romans 12:3 NASB

- **Faltering faith**

*But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your **faith may not fail**. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers. Luke 22:32*

- **Little faith**

If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of

little faith! Luke 12:28

- **Great faith**

*When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such **great faith** even in Israel."* Luke 7:9

- **Gift of faith**

to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit 1 Corinthians 12:9

- **Growing in faith**

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

Contextually, this verse in Romans 10:17 is talking about how saving faith is brought to people hearing the preaching of the Gospel in an evangelistic setting, enabling them to trust in Jesus as their Saviour.

It is clear from other scripture that the teaching of the Word of God is an essential element to helping Christians grow:

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-8

grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18

Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 2 Timothy 4:2

Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:15-16

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. Ephesians 4:15

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation 1 Peter 2:2

Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:7-8

3. _____

While the scripture in Hebrews 6 actually uses the term “washings,” perhaps referring more

to the ritualistic washing practices of the Jews based in the Old Testament, baptism is still inferred, and we will use the concept as a starting point to address the truths regarding baptisms in the body of the New Testament.

Baptisms Chart			
Scripture	Who is Baptizing?	Into what are they Baptized?	What is the result and/or purpose?
1 Corinthians 12:13	The Holy Spirit	The Body of Christ	Born Again
Luke 24:44-48 John 1:33, Acts 1:5, 8	Jesus	The Holy Spirit	Ability to Witness
Colossians 2:11,12 Romans 6:3-6 Acts 10:45-48	Minister or other believer	Water	Identified with Christ in His death and burial and resurrection Witness / Testimony of Faith in Christ

A number of baptisms are mentioned in the New Testament.

- **Baptism into the Body of Christ** – the Holy Spirit places or immerses a believer into the Body of Christ. This happens the moment we are born again, trusting Jesus as our Savior.

For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 1 Corinthians 12:13

- **Baptism in water** following salvation – a minister or other believer immerses new believers in water.

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on [their] way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, [here is] water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. Acts 8:35-39 AV

- **Baptism in the Holy Spirit** – Jesus immerses a believer in the Holy Spirit to give ability to be a witness of the gospel.

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 1:4, 5

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

It can be said there is *one baptism of the Spirit and many fillings*. For example, believers

received and were filled with the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2) but were also 'filled' at various times in the course of their ministry of the Gospel – Acts 4:31, 7:55, 13:9.

- **Baptism of Suffering** – Primarily speaks of Jesus' suffering on the cross, but also alludes to the suffering of believers in persecution.

"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father." Matthew 20:22-23

But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed!
Luke 12:50

Answers:

Pg. 1 – Repentance

Pg. 2 – Faith

Pg. 3 – Baptisms