

Church and the Word - 2
The Benefits of God's Word, the Sure Foundation
(2 Timothy 2:15-19)

Introduction

The Church stands on the solid foundation—Christ the Corner Stone and the Word the sure foundation.

What are the benefits we Christians receive through this?

- 2 Timothy 2:19, “Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”
- Paul, in the midst of his miserable circumstances, has been strengthened by his unconquerable confidence. This text is one such text. Paul's confidence rested on the solid foundation.
- Paul's experience is a great encouragement for the young Timothy! Hence these words.

When our lives are built on this solid foundation, it brings enormous benefits to us.

Three things we learn from this verse:

It Stands Forever (v 19a)

“The foundation of God stands sure.” The word “sure” means “solid.” It talks about the firmness of the foundation. And when the foundation is rock solid, the structure stands firm.

- The Church is built on the authority of the Scripture which forever stands firm.
- Psalm 119:89, “Forever O LORD, thy word stands firm in heaven.”
- Psalm 119:152, “Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.”

- The Church stands on the forever settled Word of God.
- Our local church, Covenant, stands on the forever settled Word of God.
- Our lives stand on this solid foundation!

It Keeps Us Unto Him Forever (v 19b)

There are two seals or engravings attached to the foundation, and these seals explain the characteristics of the foundation.

The first says, “The Lord knows them that are His” (v 19b)

- It was a custom in the olden days to inscribe upon a building or a monument an inscription which tells of its origin and purpose.
- So, here, in this case, the first inscription says, the Lord knows those who are His.

- This is a great comfort and encouragement for God’s people that it talks about their relationship with their God.
- This inscription binds every believer unto Him.
- John 10:14, 27-29
- True relationship with God is only possible through the Corner Stone, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Sure Foundation, His written Word.
- When we have the true relationship with Him, He assures His chosen ones that He would be their God and they would His!

It Transforms Us Forever (v 19c)

The second seal attached to the foundation is, “Let everyone that names the name of Christ depart from iniquity” (v 19c).

- If the first seal was that of relationship and assurance, the second seal is that of responsibility.
- This responsibility is that of sanctification—it is a call for sanctification, “depart from iniquity.”
- This responsibility is that God enables His chosen ones through His Word.
- In my observation, this is the theme of Paul in 2 Timothy—2 Tim 3:14-17

Conclusion

Psalm 19:7-11

- God’s Word has enormous benefits and David records it here in these words, and later elaborates it in Psalm 119:1-176
- Let us ask the Lord to build our lives on this sure foundation!