

Gold Silver and Precious Stones

What are these?

1 Corinthians 3:

**Causing you to grow
is the work of God the Holy Spirit
...God's plan for your life is
centered around your spiritual growth...
"reaching maturity"
so that you can and will glorify JESUS CHRIST and
God can bless you in your spiritual life,
and at the Judgment Seat of Christ.**

Verse 6 God causes the growth

Verse 7 The Pastor Teacher—plants and waters, yet it is nothing compared to what God accomplishes in the process.

Read Verse 8...

**But don't draw the wrong conclusion or
have these verses say what they do not say
about the Pastor Teacher.**

The Pastor Teacher is extremely important and his importance is based on what he does with the Gospel and with The Holy Scriptures.

In God's view, the Pastor Teachers are one in function but they are not equal, and the difference is not that one plants and one waters; the difference is not in the number of converts or size of their congregation.

The difference is in the Gospel and the doctrines they build upon.

1 Corinthians 3:8

8 **Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.**

Now is used to insert some information about what has just been said and to keep us from drawing wrong conclusions.

When compared to **WHAT GOD DOES** in the process of watering, planting and growth—nothing.

You are not to pit one Pastor Teacher against another, they are not equal.

Now that we have established the **ALL IMPORTANCE OF GOD;** now, let us take a look at the Pastor Teacher.

Now he who plants and he who waters (throughout all the Church Age)

Are one

ONE what???

One servant, one fellow worker

1. This means that every male who has the gift of Pastor Teacher are one category on one team. They are one on the Grace team.
2. The emphasis of one is that the Pastor Teacher does not compare himself with another Pastor Teacher.

One of the occupational hazards of the ministry is to compare yourself with another Pastor Teacher, with the size of his church, with his outreach, etc. This can cause a Pastor Teacher to become arrogant, jealous or despondent, which will neutralize his ministry.

But what is important here is that the trouble is not with the Pastor Teacher but with the people.
3. Historically in the Angelic Conflict it is **SATAN'S GOAL TO BREAK UP THIS GRACE TEAM**. He first uses various doctrines—to form denominations where a Pastor Teacher no longer sees himself on one Grace Team but on one denomination... where he competes with One Another.

Are one

Therefore, it is wrong and harmful to pit them against One Another.

Compared to God who causes the growth...
they are of **one** value... **NOTHING!**

But a warning to them—while they are one, each has his own responsibility and will thus be looked upon from God.

Therefore:

but each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

While they are one they are not necessarily equal in performance of their gift and they are not equal in their rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Each one

Going back to verse 5... looking at them individually.

Will receive Future Active Indicative.

What is important here is the future tense...

When?

When will this distribution of rewards take place?

At the Judgment Seat of Christ;

There are two judgments that are important in the future

1st is for all believers of the Church Age—
Judgment Seat of Christ.

2nd is the **Great White Throne Judgment** at the end of time, after the Millennium. The only ones who will be at this judgment are unbelievers—every unbeliever throughout history. And **they will be there because they refused to believe in JESUS CHRIST.**

It is important to remember that **at neither of these two judgments are sins brought up**—they were taken care of on the cross. JESUS CHRIST paid for the sins of every believer and every unbeliever.

But here along with the *Future Tense* of the verb to receive is the *Active Voice* referring to every Pastor Teacher throughout the Church Age.

Indicative Mood—**reality**

Many people say there is no heaven or hell.

Well,

just because you do not believe in these
does not mean there is no heaven or hell.

Well, many believers do not like the reality of the
—**Judgment Seat of Christ**—
but it is a reality not only for the Pastor Teacher
but for every believer
*and you will not be able to blame
your husband or wife or your Pastor Teacher.*

We each make a daily decision
about JESUS CHRIST and
about HIS Word, and
about HIS Spirit.

But the indicative mood tells us this is **reality**.

You better live your life today in the reality of eternity.

Will receive his very own reward

Paid in time... rewarded in eternity and I am afraid in modern America... many Pastors are being paid a lot more in time than they will be rewarded in eternity!

It is proper and biblical that a Pastor Teacher receives wages from his congregation—from those who receive spiritual food from the Pastor Teacher.

Is it not right for him to receive material blessings from you since you receive spiritual blessings from him?

1 Corinthians 9:11

11 **If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we should reap material things from you?**

But this IS NOT what is being referred to here in 1 Corinthians 3:8.

Here that the Foundation is the true gospel, not a false gospel and the building material is **SOUND TEACHING OF THE WORD OF GOD.**

But this means he has to spend his life studying and teaching on the Word of God...
...in season and out! ...in failure and success!

8 **Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.**

His own labor! Greek word: *kopos*—in the Greek:

beating, wailing, grief with beating the of the breast;
toil, labor, wearisome effort;

9 **For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.**

But now we are seeing the importance of another relationship of issue for each of us, and that is our relationship with God.

**Relationship of the Pastor Teacher with God
and
the relationship of the congregation and God.**

**This is the DESIGN and PURPOSE
of the Local Church.**

Two things to note right off:

Comparison...Contrast **we...you**

And note the threefold reference to God:

*God's fellow workers,
God's field
and
God's building*

We Pastor Teachers **are God's fellow workers.**

Pastor Teachers are not competing and not to be pitted
against each other;

Pastor Teachers connects each member with God.

Genitive of Possession—belonging to God,
this is how they should see themselves and
how members in the Church should see them.

Let us see how this fits together:

You

In contrast with

We,

But note *you are in relationship with God,*
not just the Pastor Teacher.

you are God's field.

KJ **you are God's husbandry**

I don't know how many of you know to what *husbandry* refers.

Dictionary: The cultivation or production of plants and animals.

This is the only occurrence of this word
in the Greek New Testament;

The root of this Greek word means *ground, earth, land,*
PLUS the word to work,
to work the land,

and our word refers to a worked field.

You will note in the margin of the NASV

cultivated land

The word refers to the field of labor of the Pastor Teacher.

Each farmer has his own field –to plant and water;
And so, too, each Pastor Teacher has his own field,
his own Local Church, not a denomination.

Next Paul changes his ***metaphor***—

From verse 6 he has been using agricultural metaphor then
here in verse 9 he changes to building which he will advance
on from verses 9-15.

God's field and God's building

The emphasis in verse 9 is on God—what belongs to God—and every believer should see himself as a building belonging to God and see each other as belonging to God, therefore no judging of One Another.

And just as you are careful about how your home is built and the material used to work on it or **who** works on it... so, too, you should be more concern about your own soul!

Verses 10-15 **The Builders**

Note the progression of verse 10.

10 **According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a Foundation, and another is building upon it. But let each man be careful how he builds upon it. According to the grace of God which was given to me,**

Everything we receive from God is always on the basis of **Grace**, which means not earned nor deserved – that Grace is given on the basis of His Sovereignty and Omnipotence.

Which was given to me

Aorist Passive Participle... Aorist Participle of Foundation in JESUS CHRIST.

Passive—emphasized the Grace aspect of receiving from God.

To me Your spiritual gift is given to you, but is for the Local Church.

as a wise master-builder I laid a Foundation,

wise

our friend *sophos* which is used of a skilled workman so we can say wise or skillful.

master builder

The Greek word is used only here in the New Testament and refers to one of rank or degree;
like we might say master electrician or master plumber;

This is a gift given to him as it was given to many in the Old Testament to build the Temple. Paul refers to himself as chief-sinner but by the Grace of God he is now the **MASTER-BUILDER**.

I laid a Foundation

Well, we could spend a great deal of time here:

Every one of you who that has lived in a house knows the all importance of *Foundation*:

Not a good Foundation and you will spend a great deal of time and money to repair it---so you better do a lot of work searching out what kind of Foundation you should lay, considering the ground underneath it.

Now, before we move on, we must ask;

What is the Foundation that Paul laid?

Verse 11 tells us...

read verse 11—**Christ**

The Son of God; The one sent by God to be our Savior;
The God man—crucified, (Death-Burial-Resurrection-
Ascension-Session) and coming back, and
THE ONE WE WILL BE WITH FOR ALL ETERNITY!

**According to the Grace of God which was given to me,
as a wise master builder I laid a Foundation,
and another is building upon it.**

And here is the Grace of Paul, **another just like me**

Paul is not arrogant—there is no one like me...
when he says **another** he uses the Greek word, meaning
another like me!

Is building upon it —I laid Foundation; another builds on it

You must have a solid Foundation to build upon

But let each man be careful how he builds upon it.

The warning here is primarily referring to the choice of
materials.

Note verses 12-13;

In other words

HOW he builds upon it refers to the teaching
—what he teaches—

1. **The building** throughout this passage is the believer—mature—able to learn all that God has freely given—2:6 and 12.

We learn that we might learn more to love JESUS CHRIST and serve Him effectively in the Spiritual Warfare.

2. **The Foundation** upon which all is built is JESUS CHRIST verse 11.

That is a full understanding of the Gospel, that they know God the Father, the only true God and JESUS CHRIST whom He has sent, being taught himself by the Holy Spirit.

3. The **building material** is the Word of God; sound doctrine, the Wisdom of God.

Another is building upon it—Word of God, doctrine.

4. **The builders**—Pastor Teacher chapters 3-4; skilled laborers—must be skilled

**in teaching sound doctrine; *in teaching the truth*

5. **The Power source** God the Holy Spirit!

chapter 2 and verse 6

The God causes growth.

The energy that results in effective teaching is the Holy Spirit.

Continual process all your life—

Fruit of Holy Spirit, doctrine, etc.

6. **Goal**, objective of the laborers—

Galatians 4:19

My children, with whom I am again n labor until Christ is formed in you

11 **For no man can lay a Foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

In the English *man* is given the place of importance at the beginning of the verse;

while in the Greek **Foundation** is the 1st word in the sentence.

The FOUNDATION of your life,
even of your Christian life,
is of the supreme importance.

What kind of **Foundation** is your marriage built on?

What kind of **Foundation** are your finances built on?

What kind of **Foundation** is your Spiritual life built on?

for Foundation –other– no one is able to lay

see that word “**other**” ...

this refers to another of the same kind.

You cannot build a Foundation like the one that is built on JESUS CHRIST.

You cannot build a Foundation on a denomination;

on some movement –Mormons, Muslims, Scientology, and even if you build a Foundation based on Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, etc.

None come close to that
Foundation which is JESUS CHRIST
as He is taught in the Word of God
and only in the Word of God!

Not by heresies... some claim they received through an angel, like the Mormons or the Muslims, etc.

You must be very careful of the Foundation you lay!
The Superstructure you build upon this Foundation is a vital responsibility.

—a Foundation is laid—
that **Foundation is the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST.**

Now you have to be very careful just HOW YOU BUILD ON THIS SOLID FOUNDATION:

You must be so sure of the Foundation and then KEEP ON GUARD OF THE MATERIAL TO BUILD the Superstructure on this firm Foundation!

In the Foundation:

**you have to know the Truth about the Gospel;
that it is by Faith Alone in Christ Alone; and
that it comes from the Word of God alone!**

Jesus Christ Savior, Messiah.

Plummer: JESUS CHRIST is the Foundation of the Christian Faith, Life and Hope.

[New International Version](#)

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[New Living Translation](#)

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have--Jesus Christ.

[English Standard Version](#)

For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Berean Study Bible](#)

For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Berean Literal Bible](#)

For no one is able to lay another foundation, besides the *one* being already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[New American Standard Bible](#)

For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[King James Bible](#)

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Holman Christian Standard Bible](#)

For no one can lay any other foundation than what has been laid down. That foundation is Jesus Christ.

[International Standard Version](#)

After all, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that is already laid, and that is Jesus the Messiah.

[NET Bible](#)

For no one can lay any foundation other than what is being laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[New Heart English Bible](#)

For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Aramaic Bible in Plain English](#)

For no man can lay another foundation than that which has been laid, which is Yeshua The Messiah.

[GOD'S WORD® Translation](#)

After all, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that is already laid, and that foundation is Jesus Christ.

[New American Standard 1977](#)

For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Jubilee Bible 2000](#)

For no one can lay another foundation than that laid, which is Jesus the Christ.

[King James 2000 Bible](#)

For no other foundation can a man lay than what is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[American King James Version](#)

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[American Standard Version](#)

For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Douay-Rheims Bible](#)

For other foundation no man can lay, but that which is laid; which is Christ Jesus.

[Darby Bible Translation](#)

For other foundation can no man lay besides that which [is] laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[English Revised Version](#)

For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Webster's Bible Translation](#)

For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Weymouth New Testament](#)

For no one can lay any other foundation in addition to that which is already laid, namely Jesus Christ.

[World English Bible](#)

For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.

[Young's Literal Translation](#)

for other foundation no one is able to lay except that which is laid, which is Jesus the Christ;

Now we come to a major point in our study—
building materials of a Pastor Teacher.

12 **Now if any man builds upon the Foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,**

13 **each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work**

Stern words of warning for every PASTOR TEACHER!

Every Pastor Teacher should look at these words at least once a year.

Now if any man Pastor Teachers throughout the Church AGE
builds by study and teaching.

upon the Foundation

The Foundation of Salvation by Faith Alone in Christ Alone.

with GOLD, SILVER, PRECIOUS STONES, WOOD, HAY, STRAW,

This is a refer to building material used by the
Pastor Teacher. What he teaches or does not teach.

And there are 6 kinds of material referred to here
and they are each from the Word of God.

The **wood, hay** and **straw** does not refer to heretical teaching
or wrongful teaching. They refer to light-weight teaching.
Teaching that will not pass the test in life.

These two categories are divided:

In one 1st group those that will withstand the test of time, the
test of fire and those that will not.

In 2nd group.

1. Good, solid material:
gold and Silver and Precious Stones

2. Poor, insufficient-material:
Wood-Hay-Straw fire will rapidly consume.

You will note that there are somewhat of degrees in both categories;
degrees in the **good**
and
degrees in the **poor**;

For example:

a house of **Wood** will not burn as fast as a house of **Straw**.
And **Gold** is more precious than **Silver** but both can withstand
the test of time and fire.

There is ONE FOUNDATION but there are TWO KINDS OF
BUILDERS.

And the **Foundation is JESUS CHRIST**

so we know as we examine these that they both are
born-again believers
–both sets are saved eternally.

One represents the solid teaching of the Word of God—study
and teaching. **In doctrine and teaching sound doctrine.**

While the other uses all kinds of gimmicks –
from messages that tickle their ears, make them feel good;
And oh, these churches look so fantastic, but it will not take much of
a fire to bring it down.

It is not that the **Wood, Hay and Straw** are lies or even false doctrine—

it is simply that there is no solid food, there is no substance to it.

People just feel good!

Nice stories and humorous anecdotes.

Do not learn much, do not grow, do not advance to maturity and when the test of fire comes into your life, you have nothing to hold on to except other weak people.

Are you taught that...

JESUS CHRIST is the **ONLY Foundation of your life?**

And, oh, please know that this is just as much **your responsibility** as it is the **Pastor Teacher's responsibility;**

A congregation that sits and supports **Wood-Hay-Straw** is just as “out of the Plan of God” as are the Pastor Teacher who preach **Wood-Hay-Straw.**

And to build your soul on the Foundation of Christ with **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones** takes lots of time, stone-by-stone, doctrine-by-doctrine.

Throughout your entire life—

Now there are many Christians who may lay a stone, this Sunday then next Sunday get another stone, and they fiddle-faddle their way through life, never really getting very far, not advancing to Solid Food.

Think about your life—we have many freedoms in the Christian life and one of the most important choices we have is to build our lives on the **Foundation of JESUS CHRIST.**

This is a **Bible Church**, and we are concerned only with the Word of God. We are concerned only with **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones!**

There are a lot of people who have **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones** referring to production in the lives of believers in the Holy Spirit while **Wood-Hay-Straw** –works of the flesh.

But we have to stay with **the context**, so let us see what the context is about and what is being referred to by these 2 categories and who is being talked about.

The point of issue starts in verse 12 **any man,**

Verse 13 **...each man's;**

Verse 14 **if any man's work which he has built upon it**

So, the question is... to whom does this **man** refer?

**Does it refer to any and every believer
or
to the Pastor Teacher building
on the Foundation of Christ?**

Context is used of the **Pastor Teacher** (planting or watering; laying a Foundation or building on that Foundation).

So, **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones** and **Wood-Hay-Straw** refers to **the material... doctrines** used by the Pastor Teacher in teaching his assembly.

The doctrines built upon
the Foundation of **JESUS CHRIST—Gospel.**

Does this mean that this cannot be applied to believers?

In **context**, this does not refer to every believer,
but to the **building material** of the Pastor Teacher...
...on what is he building those in the assembly?

It DOES refer to that upon which **the believer builds his life.**

With this passage in mind, turn to 2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,

This is reality of the future. Every believer will stand before
the Judgment Seat of Christ for evaluation of life
that each one each believer **may be recompensed.**

Here is the issue:

may be recompensed both KJ and NIV translates this verb
may receive

But this verb is richer than simply receive;
Why did Paul use this verb here?

This verb carries with it the idea of bringing something and
receiving something else back!

What the believer brings to God is now given to us.
for his deeds in his body,

Actually, **deeds** is not in the Greek manuscript;
it is simply the definite article —**the things through the body.**
according to what-things he has done,

Here the Greek word is *prasso* expressing an action –
repeatedly practiced – this is not talking about isolated sins
nor are we speaking of isolated times when Filled with the
Holy Spirit.

whether good or bad.

So now we have to determine what is **good** and what is **bad**
not in our eyes, nor in the eyes of man, but what is good and
what is bad in the eyes of the Judge, JESUS CHRIST, Himself.

1 Samuel 16:7

7 **But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his
appearance or at the height of his stature, because I
have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for
man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD
looks at the heart."**

What is **Good**?

All things we do in power of the Holy Spirit.

What is **Bad**?

All things we do in the flesh (out of Filling of the Holy Spirit)

So, if you are paying attention,
***bad can include such things as giving, singing, witnessing,
doing things in the assembly, etc***

Many Christians put a false front... appearing to be
Righteous, while in fact they are not!
Performing in the flesh to impress themselves and to impress
others... thinking they are impressing God.

PRINCIPLE:

If You Are Thinking, **good** refers to all things we do by the
filling of the Spirit, that is... walking by Faith in the Holy Spirit!
anything not of Faith is sin

PRINCIPLE:

But **bad** does not refer to sin in the normal thinking of sin,
why?

For all sins have been judged on the cross,
not to be judged again.

And, by the way, we all have some **Wood-Hay-Straw**,
but only a few have **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones**.

So be sure your Pastor Teacher is building on the Foundation
of your salvation with **Gold-Silver-Precious Stones**.

**The first decision is to pick your Foundation—
will it be Faith in JESUS CHRIST for Salvation—
or some works program;
then after you have made that decision...**

**You made the decision
to believe in JESUS CHRIST;
Faith Alone in Christ Alone,
but now your life as a believer begins...**

And now you have a very important decision-
What Church are you going to attend?

Upon what are you going to build your life?
On Gold-Silver-Precious Stones or on Wood-Hay-Straw?

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 3 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

Foundations for Living

Chapter 3

¹ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

² I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able,

³ for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

⁴ For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not *mere* men?

⁵ What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave *opportunity* to each one.

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.

⁷ So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.

⁸ Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

⁹ For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

¹³ each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

¹⁷ If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

¹⁸ Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.

¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, "*He is* THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";

²⁰ and again, “THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS.”

²¹ So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you,

²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you,

²³ and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God.

AMEN