

the five **FOUNDATION STONES**

Build Your Life as You Build the Kingdom • The Stone of Grace

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Proverbs 30:18-19

Introduction text: Matthew 7:24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

- A life built upon a solid foundation will stand the test of time.
- There’s a proper way to build a house, just like there is a proper way to build a house or building.
 - o There must be a solid foundation and strong footings for a building to last.

Key question for the series: *What is your life built upon?*

Key Text: “There are three things that are too amazing for me, four that I do not understand: the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a snake on a rock, the way of a ship on the high seas, and the way of a man with a maiden.” – Proverbs 30:18-19

Pursuit of Philosophers: They were trying to figure out what sustains and holds all things together and what was the initial “Cause” to give all other sources a cause. They knew there were four elements – air, earth, fire and water but their pursuit was to try explain how all these worked together. They came up with *quintessence*.

- **Quintessence:** the fifth and highest element after air and earth and fire and water, was believed to be the substance composing all heavenly bodies.

Pursuit of Physics: Dark energy hypothesis to explain the energy that started the world and is continually expanding and accelerating the universe over time.

Scripture says, “There are things too amazing for me to understand...” and that foundational element in a believer’s life is **Grace**.

Build Your Life on the Stone of Grace

Grace Defined:

- God’s unmerited favor.
- God doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves.
- God makes everything possible.

In 2013, look to the MIRACULOUS – Jesus Christ, the perfect example of grace. When you look at nature and the mysteries of nature, remember that Christ is the author of the *wondrous* and *miraculous*.

Grace means that God makes possible:

- Salvation
- Deliverance
- Transformation
- Promotion

All of these are made possible by His wondrous and miraculous grace

1. Grace is meant to elevate us.
 - *“...the way of an eagle in the sky...”*
 - Romans 6:4-5, 8, 14

Key Takeaway: Focus on Romans chapter 5 and 6 and soar by faith!

2. Grace is meant to anchor us.
 - *“...the way of a snake on a rock...”*

Key Takeaway: Focus on trusting in God’s faithfulness.

- “He who began the good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6).
- “Those who trust in the Lord are as mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore.” (Psalm 125:1-2).

3. Grace is meant to guide us.
 - *“...the way of a ship on the high seas...”*

Key Takeaway: Focus on the Shepherd’s care

- “He guides me along the right paths for His name’s sake.” Psalm 23:3

4. Grace is meant to ignite us.
 - *“...and the way of a man with a maiden.”*

Key Takeaway: Focus on God’s love for you

- “God is love.” (1 John 4:8)
- “God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” (Romans 5:5)