

L. THE REBEL ALWAYS LOOKS FOR AN EXCUSE Prov 18:1

- Rejecting authority Jude 8
- Despising authority 2 Pet 2:10
- Resisting authority Rom 13:2

M. OUR RESPONSE TO DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- Face the fact, we need it.
 - Recognise it. 1 Thess 5:12; 1 Cor 16:18
 - Obey it. Heb 13:17 = Action - Do as you are told.
 - Submit to it. Heb 13:17 = Attitude - Stand under and to hear under, it's a military term.
 - Honour it, manifest esteem. 1 Thess 5:13
 - Serve it. Gal 5:13
 - Minister back. Gal 6:6 "Let him who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches." 1 Tim 5:17-18; 1 Cor 9:7-11
-

SALT AND LIGHT TELEVISION

Series 4
BUILDING PRINCIPLES

Table of Contents

Session	Title	Page
1	God's Plan for Himself (Part 1)	1
2	God's Plan for Himself (Part 2)	7
3	Satan's Schemes to Hinder (Part 3)	10
4	The Armour of God (Part 4)	12
5	1. Personal Discipling and Pastoring	13
	2. The Donut Hole	15
6	3. Examine the Legitimacy of Birth	17
	4. Regular Evaluation of Commitment	19
	5. Everything will be Tested	20
7	6. Character Development	21
	7. Foundational Necessity	22
	8. Quality Control is Critical	23
8	9. Accountability	26
	10. Law of Existing Ordinance	27
	11. Natural Ability is Secondary	28
9	12. Maintain the Balance	29
	13. Build with Faithful People	30
	14. Limitation of Gift	31
10	15. Spiritual Authority (Part 1)	33
11	Spiritual Authority (Part 2)	38
12	Spiritual Authority (Part 3)	40
14	Spiritual Authority (Part 4)	41

Settle the Issue of Spiritual Authority (Part 4)

I. IT HAS LIMITS

- Households. Num 1:14-17; Rom 16:10-11; Rom 16:5 "Greet also the church that meets at their house."
- Thousands, Hundreds, Fifties, Tens. Deut 1:15-16 "So I took the leading men of your tribes, wise and respected men, and appointed them to have authority over you - as commanders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens and as tribal officials."
- Serve at tables. Acts 6:3-4 "Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."
- Paul to Gentiles, Peter to Circumcision. Gal 2:7-9
- Measure of sphere. 2 Cor 10:13; 1 Pet 5:1-3 "Those allotted to your charge."
- The angel of the church at... Rev 2:1

- J. IT IS SERVING IN NATURE. Luke 22:25; Matt 20:20-28; John 13:14-15 "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you."
 John 21:12 "Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.'"
 Luke 12:37 "Blessed are those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them."

K. ITS BENEFITS

- Provides boundaries, absolutes, in which there is security.
- Provides protection. Heb 13:17 "They keep watch..."
- Provides order that brings peace. Judges 21:25
- Gets the job done. Neh 3:1-4

Settle the Issue of Spiritual Authority (Part 3)

- C. IT HAS ALL BEEN GIVEN TO JESUS! Matt 28:18
- D. WHO EXERCISES IT DIRECTLY! Acts 9:5-6 "And he said, 'Who are You, Lord?' He said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do.' "
- E. OR DELEGATED! Acts 9:10-17 Num 27:19. Matt 28:18.
- F. ONLY FUNCTIONS WHEN RECOGNISED! 1 Cor 9:1-3; John 10:3-4. A leader is validated by people following him.
- G. IT IS EXPRESSED IN THE CHURCH! 1 Thess 5:12 "But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labour among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction." Heb 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you." (NASV) 1 Cor 16:16; 1 Pet 5:3; Acts 20:28; 1 Cor 14:40
- H. CHRISTOCRACY CANNOT BE ENFORCED! Jer 1:4-5 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "I have appointed you a prophet to the nations." Jer 1:6-7 "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you."..... Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant." Jer 1:11-12 "The word of the LORD came to me: 'What do you see, Jeremiah?' 'I see the branch of an almond tree, I replied. "The LORD said to me, 'You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled.' "

Salt and Light Family Genes BUILDING PRINCIPLES

Salt and Light family of churches number many hundreds throughout the nations in Africa, Asia, Europe, Eastern Europe, East Asia, India, North America. The following teachings are part of our family genes and in particular will be concentrating of our building principles. These principles have their foundation in the Holy Scriptures. While they are mainly focused for the benefit of people in leadership; nonetheless we believe they are beneficial for all those whose own Christ as Lord and Saviour.

God's Plan for Himself (Part 1)

Some people believe there is no god and that the universe including our planet Earth exists entirely by chance and it's just a matter of "slime plus time."

Others believe there is a God, and yes, he did have something to do with the beginning of what we now see, but he is completely detached and disinterested in it all! One writer put it this way: "So if God wants to make a universe that's real, I think we would expect it to happen just as evolution says: the universe would develop, over time, writing its own story, so to speak."

There are others, especially physicists, who increasingly believe there has to be intelligent design behind the universe because the more they study, the more they find themselves surprised with what they discover, and that's putting it mildly! Although they acknowledge the fingerprints of a Divine Power, they have difficulty in accepting He sent His son Jesus as the Messiah and that Jesus was the creator of the universe. Steven Hawking, one of the most brilliant physicists of our time, was forced to concede:

"It would be very difficult to explain why the universe should have first begun in just this way, except as the act of a God who intended to create beings like us"

Yet most scientists (Hawking included) still have great difficulty imagining a God who would go to all the "trouble" of fine-tuning everything in the universe just so that human beings could live on earth.

With all their brilliance, they understand (more than we ever could) the sheer improbability of earth's existence, but they don't grasp the significance of a Creator who is all powerful. They just don't "get" it. Creating a universe of 200 billion galaxies is no more difficult for God than creating a single planet or solar system.

Size is a non-issue, quantity just doesn't matter, complexity makes absolutely no difference, and time is completely irrelevant. All our human-based categories are totally inadequate in dealing with such a being.

Francois M. Voltaire said, "If a watch proves the existence of a watchmaker but the universe does not prove the existence of a great architect, then I consent to being called a fool."

Taking into account the 128 parameters that scientists have determined to be direct or indirect requirements for life, Dr Hugh Ross has written the chance of finding another earth in the universe is less than ten trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion to one.

You can probably guess that Paul and I believe that all of this amounts to God having a plan for Himself and that this plan is being worked out on planet earth. And that it includes you and me. If this is the case then it is very important for us to start at the right place.

In Matthew 7:24-27 Jesus tells the story of two kinds of builders. One is wise and the other foolish. Both builders hear the Lord's words. The wise builder hears the words and then puts them into practice. The foolish builder hears the words, but does not obey the instructions.

This is what Jesus said: "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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and

- The curse of egalitarianism!
Matt 16:21-23 "From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You.' But He turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind Me, Satan! (you Satan) You are a stumbling (offensive) block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's.' "
 - Disobeying.
 - Dishonouring.
 - Counter-proposing, arm-wrestling. Most people who are egalitarian are habitual counter-proposers.
 - i.e. Story of my counsel to a 12-year-old who constantly blatantly disobeys and counter-proposes. I suggested to him that for one week he might like to assume that everything his father told him to do, his father was right. "Even if you are convinced he is wrong, just assume he is right."
 - i.e. I know one gentleman who likes to say "I just want to be the devil's advocate." He probably is speaking on behalf of the devil.
 - i.e. I said to one elder, "It seems that everything I suggest, you take the opposite position. Is that true?" "Yes," he confidently replied. "I believe it broadens the conversation!"
- A. GOD IS ITS AUTHOR! Rom 13:1 "Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God." John 19:10-11; Dan 2:20-21, 4:17, 30-35; 1 Cor 6:1-7
- B. GOVERNMENT IS EVERYWHERE! Traffic Lights. Pilot in charge of plane. Police.

Settle the Issue of Spiritual Authority (Part 2)

GOD'S GOVERNMENT IS HIERARCHICAL

- It starts in the Godhead. John 5:19 "Jesus gave them this answer: 'I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.' "
1 Cor 15:24 "Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father."
1 Cor 15:28 "When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all."
1 Cor 11:3 "Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God."
- The Holy Spirit. John 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak."
NOTE: In every way co-equal in divine nature but not in function. "The economy of the Trinity."
- High Priest, Priests, Levites, People. Num 18:27 "A copy of the heavenly..." Heb 8:5
- First apostles, second prophets. 1 Cor 12:28 Archangels, Angels, Cherubim, Seraphim.
- The three, the twelve, the seventy, the five hundred.
- 10 talents, 5 talents, 1 talent.
- Redemptively we are all equal, but not functionally.
Gal 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

John 14:23 "Jesus replied, 'If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.' "

If we start with the "fall of man" we will end up building our lives according to our human needs. This will result in a man centered gospel! Redemption is awesome, but God did not create us in order to redeem us. He did it because He loved us and because it was necessary! DeVern Fromke calls it "Divine Rectification"

If we start with "dominion mandate" which is us humans stewarding the earth, another breathtaking privilege, we will tend towards triumphalism, arrogance and pride.

However, if we start with God's plan for Himself, we will discover that some time in eternity (where time doesn't exist) there was a divine council of the Trinity chaired by God the Father that decided to share their beautiful, pure, holy, perfect life with others.

I suppose you could say they were so in love that they decided to have a family.

A family that would fill the whole earth.

Gen 1:28 "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth, and subdue it.' "

A family that would that would rule the whole earth.

A family that would be sinless.

A family that would fully express the fruit of the Spirit.

A family that would ultimately bear the image of Christ.

Romans 8:29. "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."

A family that would live to the praise of the Father's glory.

Ephesians 1:5-6 "He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-to the praise of his glorious grace."

John Piper wrote, "God is most glorified in me when I am most satisfied in Him."

A family that would call God "Father".

Jeremiah 3:19 "I myself said, 'How gladly would I treat you like sons and give you a desirable land, the most beautiful inheritance of any nation. I thought you would call me 'Father' and not turn away from following me.'"

Romans 8:15 "...you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'"

We will never truly know God's plan for ourselves until we have a revelation from God's word, of God's plan for Himself!

If we start with purpose, we will tend towards pragmatism and man-centeredness. There's a lot of talk about "purpose" these days. There's nothing wrong with this, so long as we don't start there.

If we start with principle, we will end up with inflexibility and harshness. There's nothing wrong with principle. But once again it's the wrong place to start.

But, if we start with person, we will carry the Father's heart, and walk in the spirit and nature of His Divine will. In other words, it must all flow out of a personal relationship with our Heavenly Father and from what is revealed in His Word.

Here are ten questions for those of us who are leaders, questions we might like to ask ourselves!

1. Am I filled with my own importance?
2. Am I impatient with people?
3. Do I answer too quickly?
4. Do I use people to support my vision, but drop them when they no longer fit in?
5. Am I manipulative?
6. Do I need to look good?
7. Do I always need to be right?
8. Do people say that I need to be in control?
9. Do I confess my sins to another, besides God?
10. Do I really believe that without the Lord Jesus, I can do nothing and if so, what ways do I put this into practice?

If any of our answers are yes, then that particular one indicates a character flaw.

Jack and Daisy Hardwich read out in his local Brethren Assembly because of "speaking in tongues". They found a group of university students who were eager to know more of the Lord and started meeting in his home. There was no pomp or ceremony with Jack. An American preacher went to see him and was directed to the "Salt Cellar", a Christian Book and Coffee Shop that also served lunches. The American asked in the book shop where he could find Jack and was directed through into the little restaurant but could not find the pastor. There were students eating their lunch, but no one else except an older man wearing an apron and wiping down the tables. The American expected to find Jack in a nice plush office, after all he had heard that he was the pastor of a large charismatic church in Exeter. "Do you know where I can find Pastor Jack Hardwich?" he enquired. "Well, I suppose that must be me" responded Jack. He and Daisy were among them as those who serve! No small wonder that hundreds of university students loved Jack. This was authentic Christianity!

- Filled with self importance. Prov 28:11 "The rich man is wise in his own eyes, but the poor who has understanding sees through him." This is pride and God resists the proud!
- Impatient. But the fruit of the Spirit is patience
- Doesn't listen properly. James 1:19 "Let every man be quick to hear and slow to speak." Prov 18:13 "He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him. (NASV)
- Is utilitarian. They use people to their own advantage or vision. When they cease to be useful they are discarded.
- They are manipulative. They give exaggerated affirmation, sometimes saying, "You are way above the rest."

The apostle Paul had some further things to say about how we should build our lives, and how we should behave as fellow workers with Christ in building His church.

1 Cor 3:10-17 "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. For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 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. If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire."

Paul in these verses is addressing the corporate church in the city of Corinth. Paul has carefully laid the only acceptable foundation which is Jesus Christ! It completely passed God's building code for foundations.

Everything Paul taught he made sure it was rooted in Christ:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

"We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

"Who shall separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus."

Then Paul addresses those who will build upon Jesus Christ. He says seven things:

1. Let each man be careful how he builds!
2. Each man's work will become evident!
3. It will be revealed with fire!
4. The fire will itself will test the quality of each man's work!
5. If a person's work which they have built upon the foundation of Christ remains, that person will receive a reward!
6. If a man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss!
7. But he himself shall be saved yet so as through fire.

The two classes of building materials:

- Gold, silver and precious stones, the litmus test:

Roman's 11:36 "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

From Him. He is the source

Through Him. His is the wisdom and strength

To Him. His is the glory

- Wood, hay and straw. The tree of self knowledge of good and evil. Doing good things God hasn't asked us to do. Independence! Disobedience!

Two ways of obtaining wisdom and knowledge

- The tree of knowledge (self) of good and evil. Gen 2:17 "...but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."
- Christ! Col 2:3 "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Two sources of life.

- Drawing water from the wells of salvation.
- Drawing water from our own, self dug, polluted wells. Jer 2:13 "They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

The Judgment seat of Christ. 2 Cor 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." No believer will stand before the great white throne because he has already been punished in Christ at Calvary. Remember gold, silver, precious stones, Christ in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and Jehovah God, the fountain of living water!

Our riches are of no value! God wants us to see that our gold is fools gold. His gold is pure, refined, eternal. The true state of our covering is nakedness or filthy rags, but He provides white clothes (His righteousness). John Stott "All the sin Jesus ever had was ours and all the righteousness we ever have is His." The true state of our eyes is blindness but, and here is the golden secret, in placing our dependence on the Holy Spirit we cease making decisions by what our eyes see or our ears hear and come as destitute souls and drink of the fountain of living water and find that in the Spirit, rivers of living water flow and God is glorified and not we ourselves.

Until we see that all our works are "dead works" and see that the only ones that count are those He has prepared for us in advance, what we do out of our own independent means is actually useless.

Eph 2:9-10 "not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

The only fruit born on our branches that the Father delights in is that which is resourced from the sap that comes from Christ our root.

God gives grace to the humble. Those who know that they have nothing!

The opposite to being "poor in spirit" is acting like a rich man. Symptoms of a rich man:

- Speaks roughly. Pro 18:23 "The poor man utters supplications But the rich man speaks roughly."
- Behaves like a benefactor. Someone who is condescending. Luke 22:24-27 "And He said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called "Benefactors." But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.' " (NASV) i.e.

*Sweet and strong, and ah! so patient,
Brought me lower, while I whispered,
"Less of self, and more of Thee!"*

*Higher than the highest heavens,
Deeper than the deepest sea,
Lord, Thy love at last hath conquered:
Grant me now my supplication
"None of self, and all of Thee!"*

(Thomas Monod)

2. How did Jesus start training His disciples for apostleship and Pentecost?

William Barclay described the Beatitudes as the "essence of the essence".

Matt 5:3-12 "Blessed are the poor in spirit..." (oh the bliss of the poor in spirit) "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The word that is used in the Greek for poor is ptochos, (tokhoy) soft "k", which is the adjective to describe not one who is merely poor, but one who is completely destitute! (William Barclay)

This person has nothing. It would be used to describe a beggar crouching or cowering with empty hands stretched out hoping to receive a dry crust or half a cent.

Jesus said "Without me you can do nothing!"

Rev 3:17-18 He also said to the church of Laodicea "You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

Rev 3:18 "I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. "

God's Plan for Himself (Part 2)

Adam was the prince of this world, God's vice regent, God's delegated authority. When Adam obeyed Satan, by disobeying God's command and eating of the forbidden fruit, he committed high treason and handed over to Satan the government God had entrusted to him. Legally, Satan now became the prince of this world. He now had the keys of death and of Hades.

Later, Satan would say to Jesus "I will give you all this domain and its glory, for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whoever I wish." Instead of Adam bearing the likeness of God he became like Satan. Instead of the earth being populated with beautiful, loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, good people it was now being filled with violent, jealous, filled with hate and revengeful people.

The only way that this evil transaction with Satan could be legally undone was for another human being (who would need to be sinless) to come on the scene and by his death, pay the penalty for humankind's sinfulness and in so doing, rescue us from Satan's domain and transfer us into another kingdom. A kingdom described as being righteous, peaceful and joyful.

Well, of course there was no one who qualified on earth because every one was a sinner. Every one came short of God's standard. There wasn't even one righteous person, not even one.

But God had a breathtaking solution. He would send His own perfect, sinless, loving Son in human flesh! He was to be born the same way as any other baby coming into the world. The only difference was he would be sinless!

At the moment of conception, He was no bigger than the size of a pin's head! Divinity, clothed in humanity! Emanuel, God with us! A helpless babe born in a fly infested stable, and laid in a germ saturated, cattle feeding trough.

When Jesus came, He was the radiance of His Father's glory, and the exact representation of His nature.

He was called by his cousin John: "The 'lamb of God' who takes away the sins of the world. It was prophesied in Isaiah chapter 53:5-6 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed."

"We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

"He was led like a lamb to the slaughter"

He loved the Father and kept the commandment! John 14:31 "...but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me."

1. At the cross, Jesus destroyed (reduced to zero) the devil! He took back the authority given him by Adam and He took back the keys of death and of Hades. Heb 2:14-15 "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil - and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."
2. In justification I stand in the dock before God as the accused and through the shed blood of Christ I am declared free.
3. In redemption I stand before God as a slave in the market place and through the spilt blood of Jesus I receive freedom by ransom.
4. In forgiveness I stand before God as a debtor, and through the poured-out blood of the Lord Jesus I receive my discharge.
5. In reconciliation I stand before God as His enemy and because of Christ's precious blood I am led to peace.

Building Principle No. 15 Settle the Issue of Spiritual Authority (Part 1)

The term 'spiritual authority' is the same as the Kingdom of God. It is the rule and reign of Christ in and over our lives and through and out of our lives

Techniques are not the answer. Methods are not going to have deep, lasting results. Bill Hybels has recently publicly repented of many of the methods they have used to build an 18,000 member church. The spiritual change in the new converts had proven to be minimal!

I greatly admire Bill Hybels and believe he is a humble man of great integrity. A godly man! And if he could get it wrong that ought to get our attention big time!

Authority in the hands of a carnal leader is a disaster waiting to happen. It is so easy to handle spiritual authority in a controlling, arrogant manner.

1. The decrease of me and the increase of Him, the finish of me and the magnifying of Him, the emptying of me and the fullness of Him.

*O the bitter shame and sorrow,
That a time could ever be,
When I let the Savior's pity
Plead in vain, and proudly answered,
"All of self, and none of Thee!"*

*Yet He found me; I beheld Him
Bleeding on th'accursèd tree,
Heard Him pray, "Forgive them, Father!"
And my wistful heart said faintly,
"Some of self, and some of Thee!"*

*Day by day His tender mercy,
Healing, helping, full and free,*

Wells Theological College. He was quite unfitted to both these posts, the second of which lasted no more than a fortnight.

To the relief of many he inherited enough money to retire in 1964 to Almondsbury in Bristol where, relieved of the burden of parochial responsibility, he exercised a much appreciated ministry as an honorary curate of the parish church.

- B. MEASURE OF FAITH Rom 12:3 "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you."
- C. MEASURE OF SPHERE 2 Cor 10:13 "We, however, will not boast beyond proper limits, but will confine our boasting to the field God has assigned to us, a field that reaches even to you."
-

6. In adoption I stand before God as a stranger and through the sacrificial blood of my Saviour, Jesus Christ, I receive sonship.
7. He not only redeemed man but He redeemed the plan.
8. The Father would have the family He desired and which would one day fill the whole earth.
9. At the cross, the first Adam was finished off.
10. Through Christ's resurrection from the dead, a new species of humanity described as a new creation was born.
11. The last Adam is growing and multiplying and will yet fill the whole earth.

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation, a new creation that is growing into the image of Christ." How do we grow? Returning good for evil! Forgiving! Blessing! Obedience!

The Lord Jesus desires a many-membered body through which He will rule, reign, love, care, be salt and light and complete the work He began.

A body that holds fast to Christ, its head, upbuilds itself in love through its relational joints, because each part is doing what it has been graced to do.

The Holy Spirit desires a temple in which to live!

Eph 2:19-22 "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him (Christ) the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."

Satan's Schemes to Hinder God's Ultimate Purpose (Part 3)

Satan was soundly defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Heb 2:14 "Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil."

Satan was not able to win the battle of Golgotha, so what is there left for him, to put off the day of his final reckoning.

2 Cor 2:11 "...so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes."

He will go after the saints. Rev 12:17 "So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus."

He will seduce, deceive, accuse, trap, divide, spread discord, foster self-pity, sow doubt and encourage self-centeredness instead of Christ-centeredness.

1. Seduction into pornography, which is adultery in the heart, filling the mind with filth. Matt 5:28 "...but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."
2. Seduction to commit physical fornication and adultery.
3. Deceive people into wrong decisions, independence, rebellion. 1 Chron 21:1 "Then Satan stood up against Israel and moved David to number Israel."
4. Accuse the saints. Rev 12:10 "Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, 'Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.' "

Building Principle No. 14 Limitation of Gift

- A. MEASURE OF GRACE Eph 4:7-8 "But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: 'When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men.' "

i.e. Peter Principle! In government departments, everybody is promoted to their level of incompetence and there they remain. Civil servants! Police! Armed forces! Hospitals! Education! The Church!

The Reverend Paul Kingdon, the scholar priest who has died age 82, was well known in Oxford in the thirties but he never fulfilled his early promise. Although a Fellow of Exeter College Oxford from 1933 to 1945, he had no vocation as a teacher. He was relentless in his pursuit of arcane detail and lectured in terms so obscure that no one could understand him. Sadly, he fared little better as a parish priest. He had a remarkable capacity for creating misunderstanding and often left a trail of havoc and confusion behind him.

Kingdon did have, though, an unrivalled knowledge of German theology, his history of the Church in Germany - and the two extracts from Kittel's monumental "Theology Word Book of The New Testament" which he edited and translated into English in 1958 were models of scholarship lucidity.

Henry Paul Kingdon was born in 1907 and educated at Corpus Christi College Oxford where he just missed a double first in Greek. He took the Diploma of Theology with distinction and then studied at Tubigen, where he was introduced to the liberal German theologians of the time. In 1933 he became chaplain of Exeter College Oxford and he was elected a Fellow. A year later he played a full part in the life of the college and served as librarian from 1940 to 1945, during which time he also edited the literary Oxford Magazine.

At the end of the 1939-45 war the college presented Kingdon to the living of Somerford in Wiltshire, but no one could understand him. In 1951 he returned to teach at King Alfred's College, Winchester. He was not a success and left in 1956. Kingdon then became Vicar of Chewton Mendip near Bath and was also appointed as lecturer at

Building Principle No. 13 Build with Faithful People

- A. FAITHFUL = stability, steady, trustworthy.
- B. SOMEONE WHO IS FAITHFUL IN LITTLE THINGS WILL BE FAITHFUL IN MUCH.
Luke 16:10; "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be is honest with much."
- C. IF ONE IS NOT FAITHFUL IN THINGS OF ANOTHER, WHO WILL GIVE THEM THEIR OWN?
Luke 16:12 "And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"
- D. THE REQUIREMENT OF A SERVANT IS FAITHFULNESS.
1 Cor 4:2 "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."
- E. THE DESCRIPTION OF BELIEVERS WAS THE FAITHFUL.
Eph 1:1 "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus."
- F. THE CHIEF CHARACTER QUALITY MENTIONED TO DESCRIBE PAUL AND PETER'S BROTHERS WAS "FAITHFUL".
Eph 6:21 "Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything."
- G. HALLMARK OF GOD'S CHARACTER
Lam 3:22-23 "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."
- H. THERE IS A SCARCITY OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE
Prov 20:6 "Many a man claims to have unfailing love, but a faithful man who can find?"
- I. SPECIAL PROMISE FOR THE FAITHFUL
Prov 28:20 "A faithful man will be richly blessed..."

5. Trap believers through offence.
6. Prov 18:8 "The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts."
7. Prov 18:19 "An offended brother is more unyielding than a fortified city, and disputes are like the barred gates of a citadel."
8. Divide brothers through gossip. Prov 16:28 "A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends."
9. Sow doubt. Gen 3:1 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?' "
10. Replace Christ, which is the spirit of Antichrist.

But always remember, he may roar but he has no teeth! He is not omniscient! He is not omnipresent! He is not eternal! He is not omnipotent!

The Armour of God (Part 4)

Eph 6:10-18 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armour of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armour of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore:

1. Having girded your loins with truth.
 2. Having put on the breastplate of righteousness.
 3. Having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
 5. In addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
 6. And take helmet of salvation.
 7. And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
 8. With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view,
 9. Be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints."
-

Building Principle No. 12 Maintain the Balance between Priest and King

Ps 110:4 "The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.' "

Gen 14:18-19 "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram."

Heb 7:1-3 "This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means 'king of righteousness'; then also, 'king of Salem' means 'king of peace.' Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever."

Zech 6:12-13 "Thus speaketh Jehovah of hosts, saying, Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: and he shall grow up out of his place; and he shall build the temple of Jehovah; even he shall build the temple of Jehovah; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." (ASV)

1 Peter 2:9-10 "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

A. KING Ruling, reigning, authority, government, submission, Kingdom marriages, workmen, homes, families, finances, gardens, cars, driving, business, things pertaining to man.

B. PRIEST Worship (Lamb in the midst of the throne). It is easier to do things for Jesus than to wait in His presence and listen to.
Heb 13:15-16; Rev 5:9-10;
Ex 19:5-6 "Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Building Principle No. 11 Natural Ability is Secondary

FIRST CONSIDERATION: Does the Lord's anointing come down in what a person does?

SECOND CONSIDERATION: Are they faithful (trustworthy)? Do they finish what they begin? There is the story of a church member's testimony of my brother-law, David - hardworking, no slacking, didn't stop until the job was done!

THIRD CONSIDERATION: Are they teachable? Do they have a hearing ear? Or do they regularly counter propose? Are they "Yes-butters?"

FOURTH CONSIDERATION: Do they have a serving, gentle and patient heart towards everyone? Children! Women! Elderly and the poor!

FIFTH CONSIDERATION: Do they have integrity?
Psalm Ps 78:72 "And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skilful hands he led them."

SIXTH CONSIDERATION: Do they participate spontaneously?

GOLDEN RULE: "Give to him who has." Matt 13:12

Building Principle No. 1 Personal Discipling and Pastoring Must be Centered in Christ

If we believe that the church (body of Christ) is essentially relational, then pastoral care and discipling people must also be relational. A one-man ministry cannot possibly personally pastor or disciple a whole congregation. The larger the congregation the bigger the challenge! It becomes more like a business than a family. It of necessity becomes a bureaucratic institution with bureaucratic systems, and bureaucratic rules and bureaucratic budgets. The preaching may be fantastic, but you won't have a relational family!

Rom 12:4-5 "For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." (NASV)

*I've found the Pearl of greatest price,
My heart doth sing for joy;
And sing I must, for Christ is mine!
Christ shall my song employ.*

*Christ is my Meat, Christ is my Drink,
My Medicine and Health;
My Peace, my Strength, my Joy, my Crown,
My Glory, and my Wealth.*

*My Saviour is the Heaven of Heavens,
And what shall I Him call?
My Christ is First, my Christ is Last,
My Christ is All in All.
(John Mason)*

A. IF WE DON'T GET THIS RIGHT, EVERYTHING ELSE WILL BE OFF CENTRE

It will automatically, by default, become man-centred.

B. CHRIST IS THE ONLY FOUNDATION

1 Cor 3:11 "For no man can lay a foundation other than

the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

C. THE ONLY MATURITY THAT TRULY COUNTS IS THAT WHICH IS 'IN CHRIST.' Self help is not the answer!

Col 1:28 "That we may present every man complete (mature) in Christ."

D.	CHRIST	MAN
	Tree of life	Tree of knowledge of good & evil
	Gold, silver and precious stones	Wood, hay and stubble
	Fountain of living water	Self hewn cistern

E. PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLING MUST BE CENTRED IN CHRIST:

WRONG	RIGHT
God	God
Pastor	Scriptures
Sheep	Pastor -> Sheep

F. OWNERS OR STEWARDS

- It all belongs to him. "Joy of the Lord" "Peace of God" "Love of God" "Fruit of the Spirit"
- Whilst Jesus the Chief Shepherd delegates stewardship of his sheep to under-shepherds, he never releases ownership.
- It is wrong to call those he has entrusted to our care 'my church' 'my people' 'my sheep'.
- John 21:15 "Tend my lambs" John 21:16 "Shepherd my sheep" John 21:17 "Tend my sheep" Acts 20:28 "Shepherd the church of God" 1 Pet 5:2 "Shepherd the flock of God"

G. EVERYTHING PAUL TAUGHT HE MADE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR IT WAS PRESENTED AS BEING "IN CHRIST"

"I can do all things through him" Phil 4:13-

"But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through him who loved us" Rom 8:37-

"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God" Col 3:3-

"When Christ who is our life is revealed then you also will be revealed with him in glory." Col 3:42.

Building Principle No. 10 Law of Existing Ordinance

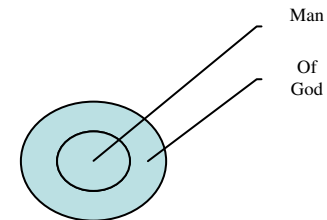
- A. NEVER TOUCH THE LORD'S ANOINTED.
- B. NEVER LET EXPEDIENCY MAKE CARE AND TENDERNESS UNNECESSARY. Prov 19:2 "And he sins who hastens with his feet." (NKJV)
- C. DAVID WAITED OVER NINE YEARS TO BECOME KING AFTER HIS ANOINTING.
-

Building Principle No. 9 Accountability

God held Eli accountable for his sons; Adam for Eve; Saul for the people.

- A. RESPONSIBILITY IS VERY IMPORTANT WITH GOD. He insists that someone is responsible for everything.
 - B. YOU CAN DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITY BUT NOT ACCOUNTABILITY i.e. Adam and Eve.
 - C. COMMUNICATION REQUIRES CARE, CLARITY AND ACCURACY.
 - D. REMEMBER MURPHY'S LAW: "Everything that can go wrong will go wrong." O'Shaugnessy's law: "Murphy was an optimist."
 - E. DEFINITION IS OFTEN TOUCHY AND PAINFUL i.e. 1st man and 2nd man but functional egalitarianism is a curse.
 - F. LIFE IS NEITHER EQUAL NOR JUST: 10 TALENTS, 5 TALENTS "If you pout when you are left out, you will be puffed up when you are let in."
-

Building Principle No. 2 The Donut Hole



What a man or a woman builds out of their gifting can be destroyed in a moment because of their character. We tend to relate and receive one another on the basis of gift, prayer, participation in meetings, outward spirituality, the 'of God' in our diagram. But what about the 'man' in the centre?

A. CHARACTER IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN GIFT

1 Tim 3:2-7 "Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap."

Character qualifications amount to 16.

Note the preparation of Moses, 40 years, Joseph 19 years and David 9 years.

- B. 1 Tim 3:10 "LET THEM FIRST BE TESTED, THEN LET THEM SERVE AS DEACONS IF THEY ARE BEYOND REPROACH."

C. NEVER LET MINISTRY BE THE BASIS OF RELATIONSHIP.

D. FOUR SIGNS OF AN UNBROKEN PERSON:

- 1 They have a history of broken relationships!
- 2 They gather 'yes' people about them.
- 3 They will not let you deal with motives and attitudes.
- 4 They need to be liked, a broken person is satisfied with respect.

E. IN MANY PEOPLE THERE ARE TIME-BOMBS TICKING AWAY.

It is essential to find the time-bomb (sexual, money, alcohol, drugs, unforgiveness, guilty conscience, victim of abuse, etc) and diffuse it.

F. RELATIONSHIPS ARE VERY REVEALING!

- 1 With the Lord: religious or real?
 - 2 With spouse: unforgiveness? uncaring? unserving? unresponsive?
 - 3 With parents: honour? unresolved past hurts?
 - 4 With children: ruling or re-acting? training?
 - 5 With pastor: teachable or defensive?
 - 6 With siblings: jealousy? unresolved past hurts?
 - 7 With neighbours: friendship? respect? natural?
-

1. Keeping a list of offences.
2. Secret accusations.
3. Distrust of motives.
4. Failure to confront delicate issues, which in turn lends to degeneration and subsequent breakdown and disintegration of the community.
5. Suspicious of biblical accuracy.
6. The seeking out of other unrelated counsel.

- Wherever loose joints are discovered, take great care to handle graciously, tenderly but realistically. If a person feels they need to move to another fellowship make sure they go with your genuine release and blessing.
- In recent years, many churches have become event oriented instead of a seven days a week church family that sometimes has events. This also fosters a platform- centred worship as opposed to corporate body worship.

THIS IS A MAJOR ISSUE!

- Eph 4:16 "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."
- Three different joints:
 - Relational joint which is permanent.
 - Pastoral joint which only lasts as long as the pastoring lasts.
 - Discipling joint which only lasts as long as the discipling lasts; this will be much shorter than the pastoral relationship.

E. DISCIPLESHIP Three types:

- Discipling in the foundations of the Christian faith Matt 28:19
- Discipling in godly character Col 1:28; Eph 4:15
- Discipling to mature a person's spiritual gift Eph 4:12 Prophets equip prophets.

F. ONE-TO-ONE RELATIONSHIPS ARE ESSENTIAL AND DO FOUR THINGS:

- Settle the issue of spiritual authority.
- Provide functioning joints.
- It is a major help in building character and filling in the hole of the donut.
- Make it possible to easily adjust.

G. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHETHER IT IS A THING OR A BODY?

Answer = A body has joints through which it can be adjusted whereas a thing is like a fair ground train; it has a steering wheel, bell and horn, but it carries on round the track in the same old way it always has.

H. LOOSE JOINTS ARE THE PROBLEM

- The strength of the joint determines the degree of truth it is able to carry.
- Six things loose joints will produce:

Building Principle No. 3 Examine the Legitimacy of Birth

This can be the birth of a person's vocation (job)! Manager!
Owner! Electrician! Doctor! Teacher!

It can be someone who believes they were called to be a Pastor!
Missionary!

The start of a church! Bible College! King's Bible College Oxford!
King's Online!

The start of a ministry to the disadvantaged! Church Relief
International!

How a person came to faith in Christ! Born Again? Baptism?

IF YOU WALK FORWARD WITHOUT GOING BACKWARDS, ALL
YOU DO IS INCREASE A PERSON'S FRUSTRATION.

New vision does not heal unresolved problems.

IS IT ISAAC OR IS IT ISHMAEL? Born of the Spirit or born of flesh?

- Sometimes it is just a good idea, i.e. Arthur Wallis' question regarding my disquiet in going to Eastern Europe. "What did God say to you in the first place?" His response to my invitation for him to speak at conference for leaders, "Did you get that from God or was it just a good idea?"
- Sometimes it is born out of human need! It can be the initial attention-getter. But a need does not necessarily constitute the will of God!
- Sometimes to fulfil human ambition! To make a name for oneself! To be noticed! (Like the Pharisees)
- Sometimes out of financial need! Back in the 19th and early 20th century if someone graduated with poor grades from university it was common practice for them to go into the Church of England!
- Sometimes out of pressure from others (an inheritance).
- Or it can be born from the heart of God and will be a child of

promise and protection.

EXAMINE THE FOUNDATION

i.e. Looking down into a deep pit. Shouting, "What are you doing?" "We are going to the moon!"

- Wrong vision?
- No vision?
- Wrong motive?
- Wrong direction?
- Wrong leadership?

HAS ANY LEGITIMATE SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY EVER BLESSED THIS WORK? Warning! If we bless what God isn't, we only compound the problem.

Building Principle No. 8 Quality Control is Critical

- A. Matt 4:24 "When He saw the multitudes He went up on the mountain and after He sat down His disciples came to Him and He taught them."
- Multitudes dilute the quality. Constantine diluted the gospel of the kingdom, which resulted in the Dark Ages.
 - 3-12-70 Quality control is usually lost between the 12 and the 70. You cannot disciple a congregation, you can only do it personally. The term 'pastoral care' implies it is relational, in other words, personal.
 - Negotiation is a no-no. "First let me bury my father." Jesus said "Sell all and follow me". The treasure of the kingdom costs you everything. Matt 13:44-46
 - No one ever tried to negotiate with Jesus and ended up following Him.
- B. THREE REASONS WHY PEOPLE WANT INTO YOU AND YOURS.
- Need oriented. The relationship ends when their need is met.
 - Ecclesiastical oversight. This results in an absence of friendship or reality and is a matter of sheer expediency. There is no revelation of the body of Christ.
 - Covenant family. They have counted the cost and have a desire to serve rather than be served. Friendship and family precede ministry.
- C. THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH IS ESSENTIALLY RELATIONAL.
- D. JOINTS.
- Eph 2:21-22 "In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."

Building Principle No. 7 Foundational Necessity

GOLDEN RULE: Always refuse immediacy, urgency and human need. A need does not constitute the will of God.

- A. ASK GOD FOR A BUILDING PERMIT
- B. SIZE AND QUALITY MUST BE IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO WHAT GOD WANTS TO DO.

i.e. The Bolder Dam was 23 years being excavated 180 feet down to bedrock. Holes were then bored and steel imbedded into the rock. It only took 2 years to pour in the concrete and finish it.

JESUS WAS 30 YEARS IN PREPARATION FOR 3 YEARS' MINISTRY!

Building Principle No. 4 Regular Evaluation of Commitment

IS THERE REALITY? Talk without walk, especially the 2nd generation? Deception?

TAKE STOCK OF COMMITTED PEOPLE.

Proverbs 27:23 "Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds."

People's countenances speak volumes. Most people thrive on encouragement!

Prov 18:1 "He who is estranged seeks pretexts to break out against all sound judgment." (RSV)

ARE WE ON COURSE OR HAVE WE LOST OUR WAY?

New methods that appear to be successful are not necessarily born of God. Or they may be right for others but not God's will for you.
i.e. Bill Hybels and Willow Creek

DEAL WITH ANY DOUBTS, FEARS OR INSECURITIES

Building Principle No. 5 Everything Will Be Tested

Ps 105:18-19 "They afflicted his feet with fetters, He himself was laid in irons; until the time that his word came to pass the word of the LORD tested him." (NASV)

PETER'S TESTING. Jesus held firm as Peter fell to the end of the mountaineering rope.

PETER HAD THE DESIRE TO REMAIN COMMITTED BUT NOT THE ABILITY TO SUSTAIN THAT DESIRE.

NEVER BUILD TOO MUCH ON AN UNTESTED RELATIONSHIP.
"He who makes haste with his feet, sins!" "Lay hands on no man suddenly!"

SATAN WAITS TO DEVOUR ANYTHING BORN OUT OF AUTHORITY.

Rev 12:4-5 "The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron sceptre. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne."

Building Principle No. 6 Character Development

Four faces of Christ. Rev 4:7 "In the centre, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. The first creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle."

- A. LION = Matthew. Christ revealed in Authority & Boldness.
Matt 2:1-2 "Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.' "
- B. OX = Mark. Christ revealed in Serving & Availability.
Mark 10:44-45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
- C. MAN = Luke. Christ revealed in the Natural & Compassion.
Luke 18:16-17 "But Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' "
- D. EAGLE = John. Christ revealed in the Supernatural & Spiritual.
John 20:30-31 "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

BALANCE IS VITAL!
