

Study 0004

Scripture Text: Psalm 11:3

Our scripture text for this study will lead us into a series of studies into some of the most basic and yet significant issues in our walk with Christ. To grasp what the scripture is expressing to us, we would advise that you read the first two verses in addition to the third verse. We have provided two other translations which may be difficult to obtain for some, below:

“I trust in the LORD for protection. So why do you say to me, “Fly like a bird to the mountains for safety! The wicked are stringing their bows and fitting their arrows on the bowstrings. They shoot from the shadows at those whose hearts are right. The foundations of law and order have collapsed. What can the righteous do?” **Psalm 11:1-3 (New Living Translation)**

“I have taken refuge in the LORD. How can you say to me: “Flee to your mountain like a bird? Wicked people bend their bows. They set their arrows against the strings to shoot in the dark at people whose motives are decent. When the foundations {of life} are undermined, what can a righteous person do?” **Psalm 11:1-3 (God's Word)**

The scripture is asking a fundamental question which revolves around the foundation on which society or a person's life is built. If that foundation is or can be destroyed, then there is nothing even the righteous can do. Thus, we want find out if our foundation in life is built on something that can be destroyed or something that can withstand the collapse of society's morals. As we study, may the Holy Spirit help us, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assignment

A. What does a foundation represent in a person's life?

B. Fill in the blanks:

(1) Although foundations are _____ ; they are the most _____ part of any building.

(2) If the foundation is _____ the _____ will not stand.

(3) The above statements (1 & 2) are true for _____ and also for _____.

Conclusion

It is one thing to _____ a good _____; it is another thing to _____ on the _____ (**1 Peter 2:5-6; 1 Corinthians 3:9-10**).

At 5:12 a.m., on April 18, 1906, there was an earthquake in San Francisco, U.S.A. The earthquake lasted for about 1 minute: there was a 20-25 sec. foreshock, and a 42 sec. main shock. By the time it was over, the 7.7 to 8.3 magnitude (very powerful) earthquake had covered a 296-mile radius, affecting places like Southern Oregon, Southern Los Angeles, Central Nevada. The impact of the earthquake was a series of fires burning out of control which accounted for about 90% of the destruction. 3,000 lives were lost; 225,000 people were injured; and properties worth \$400bn (1906 figures) were damaged.

Investigations showed that the remote cause of this powerful earthquake was the result of the California Gold Rush: years of digging for gold had caused the earth to give way! Unfortunately, most people did not pay attention to building their homes on firm foundations.

*Today, there is a similarity with the Christian life. Many people are focusing their lives on prosperity (digging for gold), but have not considered the impact of a collapse of money and prosperity on their faith. Have you? (**Hebrews 12:26-27**). Will your foundation withstand a shaking from God?*