

114.3 A House of Cards

At some point in your life, you may have built a house of cards from a deck of fifty-two. Upon completion, you realized how fragile the house was. A slight breeze from a nearby fan quickly destroys the house.

Jesus spoke of two houses in a parable. One was built on a solid foundation, the other on sand. In the storm, the house built on the sand could not stand while the one on a solid foundation withstood.¹ Jesus is the foundation of our lives – individually and nationally. Paul wrote:

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.²

While the sayings of Jesus and Paul are accurate, we can look at another aspect of the enduring house. That is, we must look at the materials that comprise the house. The house of cards does not usually fall because the foundation is not good. It falls because the cards are light and cannot withstand the breeze. In the same chapter, Paul talked about the building materials we use on the solid foundation of Christ.

¹²Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.³

When Moses built the Tabernacle in the wilderness, he used the materials God told him to use. The Tabernacle was a portable tent the Hebrews constructed with cloth and animal skins. It housed certain relics and the presence of God. The Tabernacle was strong because of God, not the materials. It stood at Shiloh for over 300 years and then in Jerusalem until Solomon built the Temple.

We know the Hebrews constructed the Temple from huge stones. The workers carved the rocks at the quarry and put them on the Temple Mount. The Temple housed the same objects as the Tabernacle. The glory of the LORD filled the Temple when Solomon dedicated it to Him in **2 Chronicles 5-6**. However, the Babylonians and Romans destroyed the Temple despite the solid foundation and building stones. The people had pushed God out of His rightful place, and regardless of the building materials, the structure fell. God and God's ways were its strength. Without Him, the Temple was a house of cards. With Him, even the flimsy Tabernacle was insurmountable.

Our ancestors built America on the solid foundation of Jesus and the word of God. Though flawed as any other human beings, our forefathers and mothers represented superb building materials for the country. Mostly, they trusted God, embraced the Bible, and developed a biblical worldview that included how to govern ourselves. The **Declaration of Independence** and the **Constitution** are critical pieces to this puzzle.

Our fourth President, **James Madison**, wrote:

“We have staked the whole future of American civilization not on the power of government, far from it. We have staked the whole of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves according to the commandments of God. The future and success of America is not in this Constitution, but in the laws of God upon which this Constitution is founded.”

¹ Matthew 7:24-27

² 1 Corinthians 3:11 (NKJV)

³ 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 (NKJV)

We started with a good foundation and vibrant building materials. Look where we are today. The foundation is there, but we have chosen to build beside it rather than on it. Our materials are not precious metals but wood, hay, and straw. We have forgotten how to self-govern because we have forgotten God and His foundational word.

The Communists have infiltrated every arena in America. Our political leaders lack the integrity of our Founders and legislate for the benefit of their donors rather than for their constituents. Thus, China owns farmland in Oklahoma instead of Oklahomans. The Marxists have penetrated our schools, judicial system, churches, and seminaries. Is there any wonder why we are in our current condition? Every arena of American life is perverse and devoid of God's full influence.

Pray diligently about our situation and ask God to bring about His solution. Then be ready to act because God will only work in connection to His people. In a sense, WE are the solution, but only if we agree with Him. God can reverse our downward trend if we are penitent and serve Him as He told Solomon in **2 Chronicles 7:14** (I will let you read that one).

Let me read a few verses from **Psalm 37** to strengthen our trust and confidence in the LORD.⁴

**Do not fret because of evildoers,
Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.
² For they shall soon be cut down like the grass,
And wither as the green herb.
³ Trust in the LORD, and do good;
Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.
⁴ Delight yourself also in the LORD,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.
⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off;
But those who wait on the LORD,
They shall inherit the earth.
³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
He is their strength in the time of trouble.
⁴⁰ And the LORD shall help them and deliver them;
He shall deliver them from the wicked,
And save them,
Because they trust in Him.**

“On Christ, the solid rock we stand,” and build our lives with His solid materials, unlike those of a house of cards. As Jude wrote, “**But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.**”⁵

Let's Keep The Light of God's Solid Building Burning!

GodNAmerica.com

GodNAmerica@gmail.com

405.361.3123

⁴ Psalm 37:1-4, 9, 39-40 (NKJV)

⁵ Jude 20-21