

“A Proper Foundation”
by Brother Parrish Lee
Sunday, January 1st, 2017

You may be seated, Saints. It is wonderful to be in the house of the Lord. It is wonderful to just be back; it is wonderful to back be around people—I had opportunity to spend time with my family, and, many of you know, a lot of my family don't even want to hear about the name of Jesus—so, to be around people that not only want to hear it, and want to talk about it, but know Him. That means so much. There's such a richness. There's a rich feeling to be in the house of the Lord, this morning. Just singing, there were three songs: Mercy there was great and grace was free (At Calvary), He's the Lily of the valley, the bright and morning star, the fairest of ten thousand, everybody ought to know (Everybody Ought to Know), and, then, We know that You are the Savior of everyone (Praise Song), of *everyone*. If they don't receive Him, they've missed their opportunity to have their Savior, the only true, and wonderful, wise God.

Giving honor to Him who is the head of our lives, and giving honor to all those who have come to stand in the gap. To those who were testified of in the Scripture, to those who ??? down through the ages, to those who have ?? in this ministry, from our founding pastor, he and his family, our pastor and his family, and to all of those who have stood in the gap to make up the hedge, and, giving honor to all of y'all wonderful to be here this morning.

And, we're taking for a thought, taking for a thought from the Book of First Corinthians, chapter three, and verse number eleven:

1 Corinthians 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Could we just read that one time, together?

1 Corinthians 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Could we bow our heads for a word of prayer? Lord, we do come before You, Almighty God, and we are amazed by You. Who is likened unto You, Almighty God? You, who breathe, and things are formed, You, who look, and things disappear. God, You are the maker, creator of everything, the lover of our souls, and the giver of all good and perfect gifts. You are the bright and morning Star. You are the fairest of ten-thousand. You are the lily of our valley, oh God. We thank You, we thank You, we thank You for delivering us to another year, Almighty God; You didn't have to, but You did. And, You gave us a brand new hope. When we woke up this morning, our eyes were open, and we saw nothing but potential; thank You for that, Almighty God. We thank You for opportunity to gather together to sing praises to You, and, God, to come and listen, and know that You alone are God, this morning. Thank You for that, this morning, God. And we pray, as we praise Your holy name, we pray that Your Word would do exactly as it is said in Your Word, that It would go forth and minister and not return unto You void, but would surely accomplish that to which You sent it. And, God, we claim this; we claim this over our lives, we claim this over our ministry, and we claim this in You, in Jesus' name, and everyone said, amen.

1 Corinthians 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Happy New Year, everybody! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas. And looking forward to some potential. Thank you for that wonderful testimony, Brother Andy.

And, for this service—our theme for the month is this Scripture:

1 Corinthians 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

And that is what we want to talk a bout a little bit, today. Foundation, foundation.- Now, foundation is defined as the substructure. The superstructure is what you see that proceeds *from* the building, the substructure is what's underneath. It's what houses everything, it's what's underneath. Actually, it's the backbone, it's the strength, of whatever the structure is that is built up on top. It is that which is the underlying strength. And Apostle Paul says, "Other than that, other foundation can no man lay. No man can lay another foundation." They can lay things, but it won't be their foundation. Another foundation does not exist.

In construction, architects and engineers go to school for a significant amount of time to study, and to go over formulas, and they have to learn how to make the foundation sure, how to make the foundation strong, how to make it good enough to house the building that's going to go on top. And, you know, we've all seen construction before, but they actually said that the Sears Tower—well, it's not the Sears Tower anymore; the Willis Tower—well, the Sears Tower, back when it was the Sears Tower, they said that the construction of that enormous building—which, at one time, was the tallest building in the world—it took months. And it took months because its foundation had to be sure if it was going to house such a building. Of course, that's easy for all of us to know, but it was a hundred feet deep in its *first* foundation, a hundred feet—concrete, and re-bar—it was a hundred feet in all if its supporting structure—the first one. The second foundation of it was another hundred feet, and it had these enormous pylons, which were to support the first foundation, because it was to house this enormous building. So, actually, twenty stories of the Sears Tower is underground. Twenty stories of the Sears Tower—of the Willis Tower—is underground. Twenty stories. So, if you're going to build something, you're going to build something that—if you're just going to throw up a shack, you don't have to worry about it. Yeah, if you're going to put up an outhouse, all you got to do is have a hole in the ground, right? If you're going to do something that doesn't really matter, you don't have to worry about the foundation. But, if you're going to build something of meaning, of substance, of structure, you gots to have a good foundation, you've got to have a good foundation.

Now, we understand this, we understand this because people, when they want to go into their career, they make sure they study properly, they go to the right places, they talk to the right people to get that education right. And parents know this, parents know this, because, when they build a foundation for their children, they make sure that, whatever area of study they're in, they make sure to give them proper nutrition, because they want to get that foundation. They make sure that they study right, because they want to make sure that foundation is good. They want to make sure that they're only around the good friends, that's going to help them and not hurt them. Because they want to make sure that, "This building that we want to build in you, we want you to be great, we want you to be spectacular, we want you to be all that you can be, so we're going to make sure that we teach you right, we treat you right, you get the right sleep, we're going to make sure that you eat right, we're going to make sure that we do everything we can to make sure that you're provided to build enormously on top of this, that your foundation will be right.

Apostle Paul makes this distinction when he says that there is no other foundation; other foundation can no man lay. Let's be honest about this: You could be strong, but that's not your foundation. You could be smart, but that's not your foundation. You could be rich, but that's not your foundation; you can build things on it, but that's not a foundation. You could be all kinds of things, you can be compassionate, you can be loving, you can be exacting, you can have a large memory, but that is not your foundation. Your foundation has got to be Christ. It's got to be the Lord Jesus Christ.

And, in preparing this message, we see that it's going to be the first message of the year—it's January first, everybody—you know, you want to have a really wonderful message for starting the New Year off right, and, so, as Andy and I were talking and praying for having a great beginning for the year, foundation is where it's got to be, we came up with that. And I'll be honest with you, it was such a fight! I didn't understand it until Brother Malcolm and Bob came and prayed. I didn't understand what happened until y'all prayed with me, here. When y'all prayed with me, God showed me that the devil don't want our foundation to be straight. He don't want that! He wants us to have a really flowery thing. He wants us to think, "Oh, something's just going to happen! It's going to turn out, just imagine, it ain't that bad." That's what the devil wants. But, the Lord says, here, He highlights the whole importance of this:

Luke 6:46-48 *And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, [why do you call Me Lord?] and do not the things which I say? [“I’m your Lord,” but then He goes on to explain His disposition. He goes on to explain what He’s talking about. He says, in verse 47:] Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.*

So, all this came, and it couldn't even shake it. It couldn't prosper, it couldn't profit, it couldn't take down the house. Why? Because the foundation was good. So, the flood, and the stream, they came, but they couldn't take down the house, for it was founded upon a rock. But, look at verse forty-nine:

Luke 6:49 *But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.*

So this whole thing is about building a house, this whole thing is about building a house. The Lord says whoever listens to Him, “If you listen to Me...” and don't stop there. Don't stop with just listening to Him. “Whoever listens to Me, and does what I tell them to do, and does what I say, you are the one, you are the one, you are the one,” He says, “who digs deep and you build your house on the rock. And when the flood does come, and the stream beats against it vehemently, ferociously...” I don't know about you, but I am not fond of getting knocked upside of the head. “And, when the floods come, and the streams,” the Bible says, here, “beat on it, it couldn't shake it.” Can't you just thank God for the battles He's brought you through? Can't you just say, “God, I didn't know, at the time, how You would but, now that I stand here, in the precipice of victory, I see that You are willing and able to do exceeding abundantly above all I could ask or think. You alone are God! You are God, and You keep proving it, over and over again.” So, He says, “When you dig deep, and you listen to My words, you build your house on the rock,” but He makes a distinction of the floods and the streams coming. From the Book of Isaiah, chapter fifty-nine, nineteen; the Bible says, here:

Isaiah 59:19 *So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.*

When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Lord shall raise up a standard against him. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! And, then, in Revelation twelve, verse number fifteen, the Bible says, here:

Revelation 12:15 *And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.*

Not getting all into Revelation this morning, but, we see here that the serpent—and a serpent is a snake, and the snake was the one that was in the garden, he's the one that is here—it says he cast out o his mouth this flood that was after this special woman, and we know that the woman the Bible refers to is who we are part of, and that is the bride of the Groom, that is, the bride of Christ. And, the serpent cast out a flood after the woman. So, we see here that the serpent, our enemies, cast out floods of things against us, floods of things against us. In 2016, God brought us through all that. In 2016, God brought us through, if we're honest, God brought us through various things. He brought us through depression. God brought us through times when we didn't know if we were going to make it. God brought us through some financial crises. God brought us through. God brought us through some disagreements with each other. God brought us through when we didn't know if we were going to make it. God brought us through. No matter what the flood was, from any enemy, or Satan himself, the Lord raises up, the Bible says, a standard against him. And, why? Why? Why did we make it through? Because we built our house on the rock, we built our house on the Lord Jesus Christ. But when, it says in verse forty-nine, then, it says, “He that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that, without a

foundation, built a house upon the earth, and the stream beat against it, and immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of it." Didn't even describe what the house looked like. It could've been a big, strong house. It could've been an elaborate, decorated really beautiful house. It could've been a stable. It doesn't matter what the house looks like, didn't matter how it was fashioned, or what was built with it; it didn't matter, all of that—it wasn't on the foundation. And, because it wasn't on the foundation when the winds and the streams came, it fell. The Bible says "immediately, and great was the fall of it." Why? Because it lacked a foundation. It lacked foundation. And this is one of the things, really, I understand Satan is really after our foundation. We had a talk with Pastor Paine last week, and Pastor said, "You know, at different times, so many things try and enter the church. So many offshoots, so many straight ideas, so many thoughts try and enter the church." And, you know, there was this legend in history. There was this war, there was war between these two places, and one couldn't prosper against the other. So, the one that couldn't prosper decided to give the other one a gift. And, it was these—you know the story—it was these giant horses, these giant horses. And they were fashioned to be really good looking. And they rolled them up—didn't give them any warning, just rolled them up and left them there, these giant wooden horses. Well, they took them in; the other place took them in. And, when they took them in, they just left them there, and, they decided that they would check them out in the morning time, which means, they had time to operate, all night. And we get from that story, the Trojan Horse. The Trojan Horse, for, in it, was the army of the enemy. And the trap door opened, and they came down, and snuck in, and won the battle. And, Pastor Paine, as he was talking to us, he was talking about different things that try to enter the church at different times. Different thoughts and ideas, different attitudes and spirits, and some of them try to "back door." It looks okay at its inception, but, once you get a little closer, if you turn your back, the trap door opens, and there is the attack of the enemy. So, it's important to check out at all times your foundation! It's important to know that the devil wants to send something to crack your foundation, to chip it away; to make you compromise on the Gospel.

So, the Bible says that the man built a house, here. The Lord Jesus said, "I will liken him unto a man that builds a house." So, the question is: What's in that house? What's in that house? There's really one, great, important, holy thing that the Bible says has to be in that house:

1 Corinthians 6:19 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, [the Holy Ghost is in you] which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

Of the many things that are in our houses, everyone who receives the Lord Jesus Christ, everyone who receives Jesus Christ, to you, the Bible says, it's the Holy Ghost that's in that house. Now, whenever you have somebody special come over to your house—we had something real interesting happen: On Christmas morning my little cousin came and wanted to wake everybody up. She's six years old. She ran downstairs to open her Christmas gifts, but it wasn't so special, because she was alone. So, she woke everybody up, and said, "I want you to watch me open my Christmas gifts." I said, "I thought you already did that." She said, I did, but, it's not the same if you guys don't come down there with me." So, the gift is really special when other people see it. The gift is really special when other people rejoice in it. The gift is really special when you have it to be used. The gift.

What else—there are many things in our house. What else is in our house? Well, one of the things we have to realize—I missed something I wanted to say. Darn, I missed something. I wanted to say, I wanted to say that when you don't build your house on the foundation, when you forget about your foundation, when you leave your foundation, when you actually turn your back on your foundation, when you forget that the Lord is your all-in-all, when you don't consider your foundation, you forget that no weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, when you leave off of the foundation of love and compassion, of the Lord being everything, you forget that all things work together for the good, if you love; when you leave off of that foundation. When you leave off of that foundation, you forget that greater is He that is in you than he that's in the world. When we leave our foundation, we leave those very principles. But, when we hold onto our foundation, we have this, as it says in First Corinthians six and nineteen, we are that temple, we have Holy Ghost in us. Of the many things that are in our house, the Holy Ghost is the most special. God dwelling in His people. I can't even highlight this

enough, and I understand, I understand why it's this great. The devil says, "Well, you always had God in your life. You've had God in your life for so many years, you're kind of used to that." How can you be used to God being in your life? "Well, you know, it's nothing special." It's always special! "Well, I mean, you're kind of used to it. You're used to reading, you're used to praying, you're used to fellowshiping; that's not big thing." Of course, it's a big thing! It's a big thing to have fellowship where that righteousness goes back and forth from faith to faith! It's big thing to pray, and have a God that hears you, and acknowledges you, and even corrects you, and tells you, "You're wrong, you're wrong. Get on the straight, and I will receive you!" It's a great thing, it's a great thing to open the precious Word of God and have it feed your whole soul, even when you're starving, to have it feed your whole soul, and know that this is between you and the One who wrote it, the One who spoke it. That's a great thing; that's a special thing. That's something that the rest of the world, outside of Jesus, they ain't got that. They ain't got that. I didn't have that before He changed my life. It's a great thing! And, now I know; I was wondering, "Man, there's a point, here..." Yeah, the point is great, because it's been cast over so much. It's been a flood of unconcern, it's been a flood of lackadaisical-ness, it's been a flood of distractions, and looking for something else. It's been a flood of taking us away from that thing that's so important in our lives, that Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen.

Part 2: God Wants His House To Be Furnished

God wants His house to be furnished.

2 Timothy 3:17 *That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto..." unto, unto "...all good works." Did you know that God uses many things to furnish our houses? Many things. Many things. Amen. Many things to furnish our houses. Did you know He uses other people to furnish our houses? Some years ago, there was a brother, we were having breakfast, many years ago, many years ago, we were having breakfast, a bunch of us were having breakfast together and a brother had just arrives, sat down at the table—he didn't even speak to everybody yet—just sat down at the table, and said—he hit the table, and said, "Well, this morning, I rededicated myself to the Lord." That's how he started off the conversation, "I rededicated myself to the Lord." Yeah. Now, the sun continued to shine. It didn't start raining, a thunder clap... Lightning didn't go across. There wasn't a great big shadow. The moon still stood in the sky. Yet, God built something from that brother in my life. And that is, every day, every day, I have to come to the Lord, "I rededicate myself to You." Just a few weeks ago, Brother Jesse came to the altar, after he'd already had a limb amputated, he was facing another one, and he came to the altar, and he said, "Brother Parrish, I just want you to know, I got my perspective right. I got my perspective—I know what I'm facing, but I've got my perspective right. God is in control. No matter what befalls me, God is in control," and that was another furnishing to go in the house. Some time ago, many years ago, we was over at Belvidere Street, Sister Davis's mom—she was so old, she needed help just to come up to the altar. And they had told me—I heard stories about her. They told me that she had been in the faith for years and years and years, before Sister Davis was even born. That sounds really great, and all that. I hadn't really talked to her. I'll give her a little honor. And, as Pastor Paine went to grab her, and she walked across the the stage, and Pastor Davis said, "Hey, would you like to say something for the Lord?" She didn't complain, "All these years I've been living for the Lord, and I've missed out." She didn't complain and say, "Such-and-such treated me bad. I missed out on this, and didn't get a lot of money, and now I'm at the end, and I look back with reserve, and contradiction..." She didn't say any of that! She said—took the mike—"It's Jesus all the way!" And then she gave the mike back. Another piece of furniture in your house. "It's Jesus all the way!" "I rededicated myself to God!" "I'm getting my perspective right, today." So, the last one I wanted to share was another brother, who actually stood up here some weeks ago, and he said, he said, "I've been in the faith for many years, but this last year, God got a hold of me." He said, "God got a hold of me in such a way, I'm not the same any more. I can't just go back to the way I used to be, because God got a hold of me. I've got to treat Him differently now. I've got to respect Him differently, now. I talk to Him differently, now. When I read, he opens

up more things for me, now. God got a hold of me, and I'm not the same." Been in the faith for many years, and he said, "This is what God did for me this last year, last year." Another piece of furniture in our house. So, God uses other people, yeah, He uses other things, but so many things to put in our house, that we build on our foundation, that He can use to make us strong, that the man of God might be thoroughly furnished unto, unto, unto all good works.

But, there is another part of this, and that is, yeah, He also wants to use us to help furnish other people. He also wants to use us to speak something in their lives of God. Not something that's going to break them over the head—what do they call them? Bible Thumpers. They call them Bible Thumpers. "I don't care how you feel, I'm just going to —whack!—and I've done the will of God." God has called us to work and minister. Minister actually means to serve and help. Serve and help. Yes! Yes! And God wants to use us, as He furnishes us, to help other people, to serve other people, to help *furnish* other people, to say His Word, His precious Word. So, the Bible says—and we'll talk more about this, but not today—the Bible says, in the Book of Isaiah:

Isaiah 43:13 *Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?*

"I will work, and who shall let it?" So, God has a work that God wants to do. Now, we have, have, have to know, we cannot let ourselves become a victim of eminent domain, we cannot let ourselves become a victim of eminent domain. Eminent domain, in this country, is when some part of the government says, "We have a greater use for your land, and we take your land, and we'll give you a stipend for it, because we have a greater use than your use." We cannot become a victim—we can't let ourselves become a victim of God's eminent domain, where God's will clashes with our will so God has to invoke eminent domain, so that our will will come down and God's will will come up. "I will work a work," He says, "but who will let it? I want to work. I know what I'm doing; I'm God! I'm God, and I want to work, but, who will let it? Who will let it? Who will let it?" So, we cannot let ourselves become a victim of God's eminent domain. And the Lord Jesus gave us the perfect example of that, as He's in the garden, praying. The Lord Jesus, He said, "I would that this cup pass from Me, nevertheless, not My will, but Thy will, oh God, Thy will, Thy will, oh God, Thy will be done." He gave us the perfect example, and that's where we are, so many times in life. "I really want this, and they can't see that, and it would be easier if they did it that way. What? What? Okay, God. Not my will, but Thy will be done. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Our last part:

Part 3: 6 Essential Pieces of Furniture for our Spiritual Houses

1. Prayer- Prayer is that you have a place for God, where you can listen to Him, and you can talk to Him. Prayer is a place to set aside—and that place can change—but, you set aside a place, a time, that you and God commune, and, yes, yes, it is a two-way highway. It is not a dumping ground. It is not to go to the edge of the city and, "Ra-a-a-alpha!" Ralph out on God. "God, "I'm tired of this. God, I'm sick of that. God, God. God, I need this, I want that. Help me with this, help me with that." That is not the whole picture of prayer. Prayer is: "God, what would you have for my life? God, I present these things to You, but, You, God, You tell me the direction You'd have me to go. God, I'm listening to You. God, I praise You. God, I love You. God, I'm warm to You. God, I honor You. I can't believe You're good to me, over and over. Your mercy is just so everlasting. God, You're that kind of good, and I've been wondering, every time You show Your goodness, it's more than I can bear, sometimes. God, I honor, bless, and praise You. I spend time with You. It's that kind of relationship going on, here. Me and You, God, me and You. God, there's other things to do, but they're not coming between me and You. Right now, I'm spending time with You, and my ears are open, my heart is open." And don't be so quick to finish that up. I have to say this: Don't be so quick to finish up praying to God. Don't be so quick to get it over with. Don't check off the boxes and move on. God is more than a check list. God wants a communing relationship. We read in the Bible where Daniel prayed. Daniel prayed for three weeks before he got his answer, three weeks before he got his—three weeks! Three weeks of praying! Fasting and praying—yeah,

fasting and praying for three weeks (Daniel 10:2-14). Don't be so quick to say, "God is great, God is good; let us thank Him for our food. Amen." "NowILayMeDownToSleep, IPrayTheLordMySoulToKeep, IfIShouldDieBeforeIWake, IPrayTheLordMySoulToTake. Amen." "Boy, I broke a record with that one." Don't tell God—tell Him—if you're telling your best friend how you really feel, let God be that best friend. You can tell Him, too. If you can tell your enemy how you really feel, tell God, and let Him straighten it out. If you can tell a doctor how you feel, tell God, and let Him straighten it out. If you can tell a psychologist, if you can tell a TV, if you can tell that driver in the road, "Hey, get out of my way!" tell God, "God, they got me frustrated," and let Him work His work. Let Him work, and let Him work His work.

Number one is prayer. If we could look at James:

James 5:16 *Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

I was wondering, in my own life, how come some of the things that I've been looking to and asking for haven't been accomplished, haven't succeeded, haven't seen evidence, and, I had to go to God, "God, You have to show me, because I'm not going to know it if You don't tell me." And I spent some time praying about it, and God said, "It's this verse, right here. It has to be effectual, and it has to be fervent. Then it will prevail. If I give time to a McDonald's menu, and I study it, what am I going to get? Yeah, I'm getting a little silly. But, if I give time to something else, I can give that time to God. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

2. Make room for some good fellowship. Make some room in your life for some good fellowship. Let me say that again: Make some room in our lives for good fellowship. Not drive-by fellowship. Not, "Hey, bro-man, it's good to see you. Glad you could make it out to church. Catch you next week. Good, good, good!" Make room for some good, quality fellowship. The Bible says:

Romans 1:17 *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed [not from rock to splinter; not from house to across the street, but it is revealed:] from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

You show up in faith, meet up with somebody else in faith. Therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith. And then it says in Psalms:

Psalms 133:1-2 *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;*

It's a covering, rich-smelling ointment that is precious, and lubricating, and soothing, and, yeah, the ointment of God. And, it says it went down to his garments, in verse number three:

Psalms 133:3 *As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there [there, the Bible says, when you dwell together in unity, in unity, there, the Bible says:] the LORD commanded [commands the blessing, when we are there in unity] the blessing, even life for evermore.*

If we don't have good fellowship, we are denying ourselves these blessings. We are denying ourselves this blessing, that God commanded for us to have.

3. Study. Study. Look into the Word of God. The Bible says to study to show yourself approved unto God (2 Timothy 2 :15). And it says in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God (John 1:1). We must get to know God's Word.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 *And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture [all Scripture] is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

So, we see that, without study, we're going to have a half furnished house; we won't be thoroughly furnished unto good works.

4. Tell people about Jesus. Tell people about Jesus. Number four: Tell people about Jesus. Make room for evangelism in your life. Making room for evangelism in our life:

Luke 9:2 *And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.*

He sent them out to tell people about what God's given them. The Lord sent them out, those people who listened to Him, those people who disciplined themselves after Him, those people who—He sent them to preach about this wonderful, awesome Kingdom of God, and, and, to see people healed, to see people healed.

*Luke 9:26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.

5. Give God of your tithes and offerings. Give unto the Lord of your tithes and offerings. Put that piece of furniture in your house.

Malachi 13:10 *Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Can you imagine? Can you imagine? If we could do this on a physical realm, just to look up in the sky, and see a great big window, shut. And God says, "You do your part, and I will pour out. I will open up the windows of Heaven, and pour out," according to the last part of that, "pour you out a blessing, that there shall not even be room enough for you to get it all! You won't even be able to contain it! If you first take care of My house; furnish the house with tithes and offerings."

6. Make room for worship. Make room in the house for worship. Make room in God's Temple—we are the Temples of the Holy Ghost—make room... I'll be a little honest with you. If Sunday morning was the only time I'd worship, if this was the only time that I let myself get some blessings from God in worship and singing His praises, the only time I let Him extol Himself in my life, if this was the only time, I wouldn't make it Sunday to Sunday. I couldn't do it; I couldn't do it! Could you do it? I couldn't do it! How could you do it? How could you eat a great big meal, and you're loving it, and you know it's filling you, and it's nourishing you, how could you do it? How could you know it's nourishing you, giving you the spiritual vitamins you need, giving you the nutrition you can't get anyplace else... I went over to Kirk's house, probably about two years ago, and he had this—what in the world was that stuff?—quinoa. And I ate that stuff; I thought it was short rice, that's what I thought it was. And Kirk said, "Help yourself." And we ate it, and after I ate it, I thought, "Wow. I kind of fell different." And I thought, "But, I don't know how to cook that stuff, so..." I ate some more of it, when I was in Baltimore, somebody else cooked it, and said, "You've got to eat this kind of stuff." And I realized I'm not as hungry for garbage food when I eat the real food. So, if you eat too much garbage, you don't have room for the nutrition. So, we're getting to a point, here. So, when we don't eat the good spiritual food, and we entertain ourselves more, and we get complacent more, we find ourselves getting harder to get into the spiritual food, because we've made room for garbage. So, make room for worship. Make room for worship. The Bible says that He inhabits the praises of Israel. Now, the Book of Revelation says, "Behold, I saw the Holy City, New

Jerusalem, coming down, adorned as a bride for her groom.” So, we would be New Jerusalem. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Psalms 22:3 *But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.*

Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel. So, we must give God something to inhabit. We must give our praises to Him that He could inhabit our praises.

And lastly, this foundation of God is solid, and steadfast, and strong.

2 Timothy 2:19 *Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.*

Give the Lord a praise.