

“A House Upon The Rock”

I want to thank those of you who were praying that we would sell our house in Fort Collins. We now have a contract on it and by the time you read this newsletter the closing will be very close at hand. We are also thankful that the inspection of the house showed that it is in good shape.

This inspection reminded me of a crucial spiritual principle. As important as it is for our houses to be well-founded and maintained, it is even more important that our walk with Christ be well-founded and maintained. For this to happen we must construct ourselves and our families upon the sure foundation of the Word of God. In Matthew 7:24 Jesus compares this to a “wise man who built his house upon the rock.”

One of the greatest challenges to a strong biblical foundation within the Church today is a weakened view of Genesis 1-11. Many staunch Bible-believing Christians assert the authority and importance of Genesis 12 through Revelation 22 and yet, at the same time, try and explain away the first eleven chapters of the Bible. “Certainly, we can’t believe that God created the world in six days.” “Well of course we don’t believe in a world-wide flood.” “After all, these are wonderful teaching sections, yet they are not meant to convey what really happened.”

What we fail to see is that the debate among Christians is really about more than whether or not we believe in a young earth or a global deluge. The issue ultimately comes down to whether or not we will believe the scriptures and see them as the only ultimate and binding source of authority, as well as the ultimate source of truth by which all other truth and theories must be judged. Such a stout stance upon the Bible has marked much of Church history. Yet, it has been eroded over the past two centuries and, along with it, has gone our foundation upon which we build our Christian faith and walk.

It is not too far-fetched to assert that we will not adequately understand the Bible unless we do so in light of the foundational truths of Genesis 1-11: The reality that God created all things good (including man), yet all creation is now fallen because of sin; death, the twisting of nature, the difficulty of work, and the distancing of man from man and man from God all resulted from sin; the equality of man and woman as well as the different roles they have in marriage; the commission to order and maintain the world and

culture; and finally, the promise that God would ultimately provide a savior who would crush the head of Satan.

This is why I am excited about ministries which help us understand and see the importance of Genesis, as well as answering questions we have about the Bible and science. One of the finest such ministries is *Answers In Genesis*, founded by Ken Ham. Karen, Jeff, and I had the privilege of visiting their new creation museum in northern Kentucky in July. In addition to enjoying all the exhibits, we also picked up some DVD's for the church library.

I would like to encourage you to check out these great learning and teaching tools for your own benefit and that of your family. Also, check out the *Answers In Genesis* web site and the many resources they have available. I pray that this exposure will provide either a refresher course or a place to start in maintaining the foundation upon which your house is built.

Pastor Tom