

## C&C: A Pillar in the Household of God

Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

### **Revelation 3:11-13**

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

### **1 Timothy 3:14-16**

14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly:

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

16 **And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was** manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Pillar: from stuo (to stiffen; properly akin to the base of <G2476> (histemi)); a post (“style”), i.e. (figurative) support :- pillar. —Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

### **1 Corinthians 3:5-15**

5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

7 **So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.**

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth **are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.**

9 **For we are labourers together with God:** ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man **build upon this foundation** gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13 **Every man's work shall be made manifest:** for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 **If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.**

**15** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

### **Ephesians 2:18-22**

**18** For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

**19** Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

**20** And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

**21** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

**22** In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

A Pillar in the Household of God must “know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” **This “pillar and ground of the truth” must understand “ye are God's building”** “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ” **“and another buildeth thereon.”** “But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.” We “are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; **In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.**”

**What is this “pillar and ground of the truth”?** “Jesus Christ, and him crucified.” (1 Cor 2:2)

We “are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”. **Jesus praying says, “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word”.** (Jn 17:20) **Jesus Christ was both a Prophet and an Apostle.**

### **Acts 3:20-26**

**20** And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

**21** Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

**22** For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

**23** And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

**24** Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

**25** Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, **And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.**

**26** Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

### **Hebrews 3:1-15**

**1** Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

**2** Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

3 For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

5 **And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant,** for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, **To day if ye will hear his voice,**

8 **Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:**

9 **When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.**

10 **Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart;** and they have not known my ways.

11 So I swear in my wrath, **They shall not enter into my rest.)**

12 **Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.**

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called **To day;** lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

15 While it is said, **To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.**

This “pillar and ground of the truth” is the gospel of Jesus Christ and we are warned “But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

### 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

9 **For we are labourers together with God:** ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

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

12 Now if any man **build upon this foundation** gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13 **Every man's work shall be made manifest:** for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 **If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon,** he shall receive a reward.

15 **If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss:** but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

This “pillar and ground of the truth” is understanding the gospel of Jesus Christ and how we are to partake of this gospel of Jesus Christ.

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

**This “pillar and ground of the truth” is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ who died for our sins** “according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”

To partake of this “pillar and ground of the truth” one must be born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus instructed Nicodemus.

### **John 3:1-8**

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, **a ruler of the Jews:**

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: **so is every one that is born of the Spirit.**

To partake of this “pillar and ground of the truth” as the Apostle Paul instructs his son in the gospel Timothy we must also understand who God is.

### **1 Timothy 3:15-16**

15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

16 **And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**

**This same mystery is also known as the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ.**

### **Colossians 2:1-4**

1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, **and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;**

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

**3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

**4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.**

It is of the utmost importance to understand this “mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ” which we are told is “God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

Before Jesus Christ’s ascension he made sure that his Apostles understood this mystery since the gospel was going to be believed on through their words “**Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word**” (Jn 17:20) and the fact that the gospel is “built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”. (Eph 2:20)

Jesus revealed to them that “**I and my Father are one**” (Jn 10:30) and that the Holy Spirit was also himself in the Spirit which would not leave them comfortless saying, “**I will come to you.**”

**John 14:17-18**

**17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

**18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

Jesus verified this.

**John 16:29-31**

**29 His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb.**

**30 Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.**

**31 Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe?**

Let us now look at what the Apostle John also wrote in first John chapter one.

**1 John 1:1**

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, **of the Word of life;**

**Stop.** The time reference of creation is spoken of. **Notice very carefully however** that after speaking of seeing and touching that which was from the beginning, the Apostle John explicitly says that he was “of the Word of life”. **This is a very big point. He did not say that he was the Word of life,** but rather he was “**of the Word of life**” **Who was the Word according to John chapter one verse one?** Do you remember? **Answer:** “**the Word was God**”.

So the reason why the Apostle John did not say that Jesus was the Word of life is because the Word was not made flesh before creation began. **So in regards to the humanity of Christ,** he was “of the Word of life”. Jesus was fully man and fully God. **So the flesh of God is** “of the Word of life” whereas **the divinity of Christ was the Word of life.** Not sure? Let us look at

verse two of first John chapter one, as well as verse four chapter one of the gospel of John, of which was also speaking of the Word of God, as well as first John chapter five verse twenty.

### **1 John 1:2**

2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

So just like the Apostle said in the gospel of John chapter one verse one, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”. We also now see that of which was with God was eternal life and that eternal life was manifested unto us. Thus why the Apostle John said that he was “of the Word of life”.

### **John 1:4**

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

**Remember this verse of scripture was speaking** of the Word that “was with God, and the Word was God”. “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

**However when speaking of the divinity of Christ the Apostle John tells us that Jesus Christ “is the true God, and eternal life.”**

### **1 John 5:20**

20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

So let us now re-examine the first three verses of first John chapter one.

### **1 John 1:1-3**

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Notice carefully that verse three does not mention the Holy Ghost. Why would the Apostle John leave out the third person of the Trinity as part of the fellowship of the believers if there was a Trinity? **The answer:** there isn't a Trinity. This was a development over time of philosophers of men who could not discern the Word of God.

### **2 Corinthians 5:19**

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Who was in Christ? God was.

### Matthew 1:23

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Who was with us? God was.

### Galatians 4:4

4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

When was the Word made flesh? “When the fulness of the time was come”.

### John 1:14

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Who was the Word? “The Word was God”. Who was in Christ? God was. Who was with us? God was.

### John 3:34

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

Who is the Spirit? “**God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**” (John 4:24)

### Colossians 2:8-10

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

**The fullness of the Godhead which is the Spirit** (for God is a Spirit and God gave his Spirit to Jesus without measure because Jesus was God with us and yet fully man at the same time) and thus you have the fullness of the Godhead **dwelling in the body of Christ**; not a plurality of persons of God dwelling in the body of Christ. “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power”.

This is why the Apostle John said “truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:3)

**This is also what Jesus meant when he according to his humanity prayed to the eternal Spirit of God that we “all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us”.** (John 17:21)

**John 17:20-21** Brackets inserted by me

20 Neither pray I for these alone, **but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;**

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me {God is a Spirit}, and I in thee {Jesus was fully man and fully God}, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

**How are Jesus and the Father one?** They are one in body and one in Spirit as well as one in name and one in truth!

Jesus is God and Jesus is one with God in truth, in name, in body, and in Spirit. We become one in Jesus by the truth when we receive the Holy Ghost or the Spirit of Truth. This Spirit of Truth, the Holy Ghost, gives us access to the body of Christ of which we become “members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.” (Ephesians 5:30) “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

**Ephesians 4:4-6**

4 There is **one** body, and **one** Spirit, even as ye are called in **one** hope of your calling;

5 **One** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism,

6 **One** God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

This is “the pillar and ground of the truth” of which A Pillar in the Household of God must understand. “And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.” (1 Jn 5:20)

**Just prior to Jesus’ ascension into Heaven,** he opened the scriptures concerning himself to his disciples and revealed to them what to preach, “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

**Luke 24:44-49**

44 And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.**

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

**46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:**

**47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**

**48 And ye are witnesses of these things.**



**49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.**

The Apostles having all knowledge now of the scriptures concerning Jesus the Christ and knowing who Jesus the Christ really is waited in Jerusalem for the promise of the Holy Ghost which they knew was going to be Jesus in them as he told them **“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”** (Jn 14:18) **“To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:”** (Col 1:27) **“Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”** (Rm 8:9) **“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”** (Gal 4:4-7)

Thus when the Holy Ghost was poured out upon the believers as promised by Jesus, the Apostles having the complete understanding of who Jesus the Christ really is, told all men what they must do in order to be born again of water and of the Spirit to have eternal life.

#### **Acts 2:36-41**

**36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.**

**37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?**

**38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

**39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

**40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.**

**41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.**

The Apostle Matthew being with the Apostle Peter who spoke this truth of how every one of us must be born again or we will not enter into the kingdom of God, also fully understood who Jesus is and did not have any objections of what the Apostle Peter taught as they all understood who Jesus is.

A Pillar in the Household of God must also **“know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”** (1 Tim 3:15)

#### **Hebrews 12:14**

**14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

## **2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1**

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

## **Galatians 5:16-25**

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

## **Romans 12:1-2**

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

## **1 Thessalonians 4:2-8**

2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

16 Rejoice evermore.

17 Pray without ceasing.

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19 Quench not the Spirit.

20 Despise not prophesyings.

21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.