



WEEK 7 | TIM CARNES

1 Timothy 3:14-16 I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; ¹⁵ but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself - in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth. ¹⁶ By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

1 Corinthians 3:9-17 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. ¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. ¹⁶ Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷ If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

2 Corinthians 6:15-18 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. ¹⁷ "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. ¹⁸ "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

Ephesians 2:8-22 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. ¹¹ Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," which is performed in the flesh by human hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, ¹⁵ by abolishing in His flesh the enmity,

which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace,¹⁶ and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.¹⁷ AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR;¹⁸ for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:4-5 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God,⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Additional Scriptures: 1 Timothy 4:9-11; 2 Timothy 2:22; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 12:1-6; Ephesians 4:1-3; Ephesians 2:19; Romans 16:25-26; John 1:1-14; John 3:13-18; 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 8:11-14; Romans 1:4; 1 Peter 1:10-12; Ephesians 3:8-12; Romans 16:26; Colossians 1:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:10

GO DEEPER

This week, read the Scriptures from Sunday and answer these questions:

1. What did you learn from Sunday's sermon? Did you gain new insights?
2. If we tare God's household and His dwelling place by the Spirit, how should that shape: The way we treat one another? The seriousness with which we gather? The way we view church membership and participation? Where do we tend to treat church more like an event than a family?
3. What does it practically look like for our church to be a "pillar and support of the truth" in a culture that resists biblical authority? How careful are we personally about what we build on the foundation of Christ (1 Corinthians 3)? What might be considered "wood, hay, and straw" in today's church context?
4. Why is it crucial that the church's foundation is not moral improvement but the revealed person and finished work of Jesus Christ? How does a clear view of Christ protect us from drifting into either legalism or cultural compromise?
5. What does it mean in real life to "come out and be separate" without withdrawing from the world? Where do believers today most feel pressure to blur the line between church and culture? How do we pursue holiness together rather than individually?
6. If the church exists to display the manifold wisdom of God to both the nations and heavenly powers (Ephesians 3:10), how should that shape: Our evangelism? Our stewardship of spiritual gifts? Our long-term faithfulness? What would it look like for us to live in light of Christ being "taken up in glory" and returning to be glorified in His saints?