

Job 38:6 *“On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone”*

Isn't a holding tent peg and a cornerstone the same thing? Aren't they something that is the solid stone that holds or binds? On the surface it certainly looks that way. I get the impression that (in church) we hear Jesus being described as solid, stable, and a rock. Those things are true but God the Father has several names like Elohim and Yahweh. Each name is a different description of God's character. People are multi facet. So is Jesus. Through the century's, writers have pinned names to Jesus like savior and cornerstone. As a tent peg means secure; the cornerstone means beginning.

Matthew 7:24 *“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock.”*

I looked into the history of the Cornerstone. Sometimes we compare it to a capstone yet they are totally different things. With the definition of a cornerstone, Jesus is that to a tee. In the past, builders began with what is called a corner stone. It's the stone that the whole building surrounds. I know it's a little abstract but we begin with one stone in building a house. In the coming days we fill in and around that stone with others. Think about it! Jesus came down and began to build Christianity. What a far cry is it today from where it began with 12 men. Yet, within the midst of the Christian world still stands the cornerstone: Jesus.

Amos 7:7 *“Thus He showed me, and behold, the Lord was standing by a vertical wall with a plumb line in His hand. The Lord said to me, “What do you see, Amos?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “behold I am about to put a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. I will spare them no longer.”*

The verse above gives the cornerstone context. All through the Bible are references to God building a kingdom. There are plumb lines, cornerstones, and seeds of a nation. We have the Christ and his disciples. From there we built the church. Each one of us are built around the cornerstone of Christ Jesus. God set the plumb line down. That line is the measuring stick: the Lord Jesus. The standard of conduct and faith are found in the Bible. Yet, God begins with one stone: The Son of God.

Let's take a little history lesson with the stone. In days gone by this cornerstone was placed first. Did you know that a sacrifice was then made on it? The blood of an animal was sprinkled over the stone to mark it for God. We do it all the time. A boat gets a sendoff. A building has a ribbon cutting. People lay hands on someone to send them out into the mission field. In Bible history they marked events with stones. Sacrifices were made to honor God in the process. The cornerstone is not there or blessed by mistake.

Matthew 21:42 *“Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”*

Isaiah 8:14 *“He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah. He will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”*

In Christian circles these two (above) verses are the famous ones. The ones that say that the world trips over Jesus. They stumble over the truth and the word. I have even read rebuttals that claim tripping over a cornerstone is not possible. These verses are ridicules. Yet, they were given for a reason. The original writers knew the truth. The law of God was solid. God himself was their rock. Further to that was the promise of a leader (messiah) who would be their

cornerstone and commander. The tent peg they would rely on. We will get into the saying about Jesus as the alpha and omega in a later study. Yet, today let's put Jesus in his proper place. He is the cornerstone to Christianity. The word is a stumbling block to those who hate Jesus. The word of God is good for the soul. It's a terrible place for the fallen world. They will reject and stumble in life just to avoid the truth of Jesus. How would unbelievers react at death if they came to know the truth too late. What if heaven and hell were real? There are answers to life's troubles. What if Jesus had those answers? What if your feet did not stumble?

*Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"*