

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XLI NUMBER VII Seven Pillars of Stability

THURSDAY, JULY 1

Scripture: Isaiah 33:5-6

We live in a time of instability. Financial instability, medical instability, political instability, and spiritual instability. In times of instability, God has given us a foundation of stability to be found in His Word, supported by seven pillars, which will be our topic of study for this month! Studying the seven pillars will give us a scriptural framework for the stability necessary to face every uncertainty confronting us in the here-and-now. Isaiah 33:5-6 says, *“The Lord is exalted for He dwells on high, He has filled Zion with judgment and righteousness. Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times and the strength of salvation the fear of the Lord is his treasure.”* There is a promise in verse 6, *“Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times...”* which has a prerequisite in verse 5 – *“the Lord is exalted for He dwells on high and He has filled Zion.”* Zion is the highest place in Jerusalem, the Temple was built in Zion, and after the ascension of Christ, the Temple is **in us**. He has filled **us** with judgment and righteousness. The prerequisite is simple, you choose to accept God's preparation and assignment, then wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times!

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Scripture: John 10:1-5

John 10:1-5 says, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”* In taking the sin of the world on himself, Jesus became the door to eternal life! That door became like us, taking human form and paying the ultimate price to become our shepherd. Jesus is the door by which we proclaim justice, and He is the foundation on which our salvation is based. He came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly! John 10 makes that clear. That's why living according to His Word is an absolute prerequisite for the promises of strength and stability! Fully representing God is essential!

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Scripture: Acts 4:5-12

Jesus Himself is the first foundational principle upon which we build stability for our times and seasons, and is therefore our **Pillar Number 1**. Now in Acts 4, this is made very clear. Speaking of Jesus in verses 11 and 12, the author declared, *“Jesus is the stone which was rejected by you builders which has become the chief cornerstone, nor is there salvation in any other for there is no other name under heaven give whereby men must be saved.”* Jesus is the ultimate

foundation stone upon which we build, and the very first pillar which we must learn to lean on for stability. When we give our lives to Jesus, we live according to His Word. While warfare is inevitable and will come, ordering our lives around service to Christ is the first step in making our lives more stable.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Scripture: Matthew 5:17-22

Pillar Number 2 in the Scripture can be found in Matthew 5 verses 17-22. In Matthew 5:17-18, Jesus said: *“Do not think I came to destroy the law and the prophets, I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For surely I say to you, til heaven and earth passes away, one jot nor one tiddle will pass away from the law until all is fulfilled.”* **Pillar number 2** is the **Word of God**. It is the most stable thing in the entire universe, and it is promised to be here and never, never, pass away. John 1:1 tells us: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”* Of Himself, God declares in Revelation 1:8: *“‘I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,’ says the Lord, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.’”* When we choose to accept God’s Word in its entirety, as being from Him, and binding on our lives to it, then we are on a path not merely to achieve the stability in our lives that we seek, but to become a pillar of stability for others in our sphere, as well!

MONDAY, JULY 5

Scripture: Matthew 7:15-20

In Matthew 7:15-20, we are told in verses 15-16, *“Beware false prophets who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits, Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?”* Answer: No, they don’t! Verses 17-19 continue, *“Even so, every good tree bears good fruit. But a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”* There is the judgment and justice called for by Isaiah 33:5! Verse 20 concludes: *“Therefore, by their fruits you will know them.”* How do you tell whether someone is a Christian? Believers actually DO the Word. They reflect the Bible. The Bible IS their standard. The Word of God is their standard. Those are the only people who have true stability in the earth, as He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Because the Word of God doesn’t change, they won’t change. Those are the only people you can trust, especially in leadership. Any one of us can self-identify as a Christian. Do our actions back it up? Do we live like a Christian? Love like one? Forgive like one?

TUESDAY, JULY 6

Scripture: Matthew 7:21-23

Continuing in Matthew 7 with verses 21 through 23, this is where the rubber really meets the road. These passages demonstrate how important God’s Word is as a Pillar of Stability. We are told, *“Not everyone who says to me, Lord Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, cast out demons in your name, done many wonders in your name, then I will declare to them, I never knew you, depart from me you who practice lawlessness.”* Verse 21 describes an attribute of God’s family. True sons and daughters are easy to spot because they DO the Word. They reflect God’s commandments. Anyone who says “I’m a Christian” and consistently makes choices that benefit only him or her-self, practices lawlessness. They won’t be on the right side of eternity. They can profess all they want, but they prove by their actions that they serve themselves rather than God. No stability there!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Scripture: Matthew 7:24-27

Finishing up in Matthew 7, we are told in verse 24, *“Therefore, whoever hears these sayings and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who builds his house on the rock. The rain descended, the floods came, the winds blew,*

they beat on the house and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.” The only people who can claim the stability of Isaiah 33:6, are not those who share the “Eli-lifestyle” – rather they are the Samuel-lifestyle believers. They actually live according to the Word. That’s why the **Word of God** is **Pillar Number 2**. If we choose to live by it, no flood is taking us out. If we choose to compromise, we will likely be gone with the first big wave. Our choice!

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Scripture: John 14:12-14

John 14:12-14 tells us, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”* That presupposes a relationship with God close to what Jesus had. Because the whole issue of works and greater works represents God Himself. Such works are initiated by God, and demonstrated through us. That’s the way it was in the early church. Paul moved by the Holy Spirit demonstrated God. Peter moved by the Holy Spirit demonstrated God. The entire early church, Stephen, all the deacons, were moved by the Spirit of God. So when we read about works and greater works, the primary mover there is not us, it is the Holy Spirit moving us to accomplish what has been preordained. That comes from relationship. The number one thing we do as Christians is to grow our relationship with the Father through obedience. Our goal is to have the same relationship that Jesus had with His Father! How are we doing?

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Scripture: John 14:15-23

In John 14:15 through 23, we are told that the greater works of the prior verses are something we cannot achieve on our own. We need help! And Jesus promises that help. He says first in verse 15, *“If you love me, keep my commandments,”* then he says in verses 16-17, *“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”* Jesus is making us a temple for the Holy Spirit. The Helper who will initiate the original works AND the greater works is coming and taking up residence in us! We don’t have to go far to develop a deeper relationship with God, when the Holy Spirit takes up residence in the temple, the third person of the God-head is now with us! The one who anoints man, is present. He is on board! Now it’s a matter of developing that bond which is guaranteed to demonstrate works the same and greater than Jesus did! This is why the **Holy Spirit** is the **Pillar Number 3**!

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Scripture: John 16:8-15

When we look at this progressive unfolding of the purpose of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in the book of John we see that the primary preparation for the Holy Spirit was given by John. Looking at this progression, we can’t leave out John Chapter 16. According to the Son of God, we will be better off when He leaves and the Holy Spirit comes. In fact, the Holy Spirit has a whole lot to say to us, but we must have an active relationship in order to be able to hear Him! Jesus warned the Disciples that he had many things to say, but that they were not yet ready to understand. They had to have a deeper foundation in the Word to grow into understanding. What they believed about the coming of the Messiah was wrong. They didn’t understand that there had to be a first coming before there was a second. They all thought that the second coming was the first. That’s why they couldn’t receive the Suffering Servant! That wasn’t the Messiah they had been trained to expect. They were expecting the Judge of All the Earth. They had to grow before they could hear what God wanted to tell them! Now how much of that is true of us? There’s only one direction to go, and that is to dig into the Word of God! It’s the Holy Spirit’s job to grow the seeds of the Word in us so that we can hear what God wants to tell us.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Scripture: John 17:20-23

In John 17:20-23. Jesus directly and specifically prays that we would develop the same relationship with the Father that He had: *"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."* What does that oneness produce? The oneness with the Son and oneness with the Holy Spirit produces the same works that Jesus and the Apostles did. It is a prerequisite for moving in either the pastoral or the judicial aspects of Jesus' ministries!

MONDAY, JULY 12

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

Now after all the preparation for the Holy Spirit in the Book of John, John 20 records the receiving of the Holy Spirit in verse 22 and 23 in a little different way than we see it anywhere else in the New Testament. It says, *"And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain (**krat-ee-oh**) the sins of any, they are retained.'"* What exactly is retaining sin? The issue of retaining sin is the power of judgment, calling the wicked to account! Peter did that with Ananias and Sapphira. Paul did that with Elymas the False Prophet. '**Krat-ee-oh**' is the Greek word for dominion. It's the highest level of power recorded in the New Testament. And the fact that John emphasizes this concept over the issue of retaining sin, is your guarantee that the Holy Spirit is the origin of all judgment, including the judgments He may call on you to pronounce! The real question is how do you and I keep our flesh out of the equation when God has ordained judgment? We train ourselves to wait for a Holy Spirit push! John understood it and laid the foundation for it in Chapter 20 when he recorded Jesus saying, *"...receive the Holy Spirit."*

TUESDAY, JULY 13

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

Finally, the Holy Spirit comes in Acts 2:1-4, and when He comes, He gives each of them a prayer language. They're all filled with the Holy Spirit, and begin to speak with other tongues as the Holy Spirit gives them utterance. Now, is the Gift of Tongues important? Yes, absolutely! We don't discover that until we read the rest of the New Testament. But as we read the rest of the New Testament, we discover how important it really is! And perhaps the most important issue of all doesn't come out of the New Testament, it comes out of Isaiah 28:11-12 which says: *"For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, To whom He said, 'This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,...'"* And, *"'This is the refreshing'; Yet they would not hear."* They would not hear... Tongues is a test! The church is still debating about whether or not the Gift of Tongues even still exists! According to Isaiah, it's not only important, it's essential! According to Jesus in John 14, 16, 17, it's essential! You can't develop the relationship with God that Jesus had without the Holy Spirit! He's your helper! It's God Himself onboard in your life! Why would you have to go to the courts of Heaven when God re-established the judge inside of you!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Scripture: Romans 8:26-27

Since the **Holy Spirit** is **Pillar Number 3**, we now look to Romans 8:26-27 to find just how important the Holy Spirit is. For He moves us to pray and we're told: *"Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God."* When you and I are praying in the Spirit, we are praying God's will into our future encounters. We are calling forth the fullness of the works God ordained for us to do before the foundations of the earth. And the Bible says that none of us know how to do that, but the Spirit does! Because the Spirit knows what

those are! Tongues has been given, according to Isaiah, as a test. It brings refreshing. It brings revelation. It brings the will of God, and the question is simple: Are we going to pass the test? When we're praying in tongues, we don't know what we're praying, so it doesn't seem like it has value. But it has ten times the value when you realize why God sent it. Tongues is a supernatural way to call the future will of God into existence now! So when we reach those situations, we are ready and prepared.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:9-16

1 Corinthians 2:9-16 amplifies this process. In verses 9-12 we are told, *"But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God."* So why did the Holy Spirit come? To show us God's will. To manifest it, to anoint it, to DO it! That's what He did with Jesus, it was the Holy Spirit working in tandem with the Son that healed the sick and raised the dead during Jesus' ministry, it was the Holy Spirit who empowered the Apostles to spread the Word, and it is the Holy Spirit who enables us to fulfill our callings today!

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Scripture: Acts 2:34-35

Stability comes from God! **Pillar Number 4** is based on Acts 2. We are given this progression: This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. Acts 2:34-35 says, *"For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"* So, the pouring out of the **Holy Spirit** was **Pillar Number 3**, and the purpose of the Holy Spirit is **Pillar Number 4**: For us to be **Seated With God in the Heavenly Places** until God's enemies are made his footstool! Sometimes He does that in a Priestly form: healing the sick, or raising the dead. Sometimes he does it in a Kingly form, through judgment or affliction. That's not our choice, that's His! We merely announce it. That's where the partnership comes from. The Holy Spirit does the works, but we are the ones who declare them. As we pray, we call them forth out of the realm of the Spirit and into the natural. It's preparation for the ministry that's ahead. **Pillar Number 4** requires accepting the reason that God gave us the Holy Spirit, and cooperating with Him in that process, whether He chooses the priestly or the judicial. We have to be ready for either one. The church has done a fair job at representing the Savior, but how are we doing representing the Judge of All the Earth?

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-10; John 14:23; Acts 2:32-36

In Ephesians 2:4-10 we have more confirmation of what God has done for us and the purpose of the Holy Spirit that was given. Verses 4-10 say: *"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."* Let's look at the unfolding purpose of God in how it matches Acts 2 both in the receiving end of the Holy Spirit and in the purpose of the Holy Spirit from Acts 2:32-36. Peter said this in his preaching when he was explaining the purpose of the Holy Spirit. The actual progression we see in scripture changes the numbering of the Pillars a little, but they are so close together that really, **Pillar Number 3** and **Pillar Number 4** are together. Here we see that we are seated with Christ,

and THEN He pours out the Spirit. John 14:23 promises, “...we will come to him and make Our home with him.” The Holy Spirit indwelling us, being seated with Christ and the Father brings the fullness of the Godhead to reside in us! We become the temple. These two things flow together. You can’t have one without the other. One purpose of the Holy Spirit is to develop the relationship inside us as Jesus had with the Father. And out of that comes the works that we do according to Ephesians. It’s all one picture. It flows together. The question is: How are we doing with developing that relationship?

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-6

We are **Seated With God in Heavenly Places**, and what’s the purpose? The purpose is to do the works that the Holy Spirit has pre-ordained and weaves through us as we pray in the Spirit! That’s the whole purpose. Why did Jesus come? To do the works the Father showed Him. *‘I do not do anything but what I see the Father do it, I don’t say anything but what I hear the Father say it.’* The whole purpose of Jesus’ life and ministry reflects the Father. Our whole purpose is to reflect Jesus! We can’t do it on our own. We have to do it by the Holy Spirit. It has to be prayed out with a growth progression here that every believer has to follow. It’s relational, requiring submission, obedience, and time. It takes time and commitment to develop a relationship with God. We have to spend time with Him!

MONDAY, JULY 19

Scripture: Psalm 110:1

The description of Psalm 110 in my Study Bible is: The Coming of the Priest-King-Judge. Psalm 110 describes the Jesus of Acts 2:32-36. This is who Jesus looks like. This is why Jesus came. This is how He acts. This is what He does. This is Who He is. This is Who we represent! *“The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’”* So, the Father made the Son sit at His right Hand, until the Father made His enemies His footstool. How? He pours out His Holy Spirit on us, that means you and I, by the Holy Spirit, get to walk this out. Now, sometimes, He is a Priest, sometimes He is a King, and sometimes, He is a Judge. What determines which role God manifests? We don’t! Because we are not God. We are merely His representatives. We are to reflect Him! The only way we can get that right is to grow in relationship with Him! How are we doing with the growth?

TUESDAY, JULY 20

Scripture: Psalm 110:2

After Jesus took a seat at the right Hand of God, the Lord declared His purpose in making His enemies His footstool in the next verse He tells us how He is going to start! Verse 2 says, *“The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!”* What is the rod of His strength? His Word! Where’s Zion? The highest place in Jerusalem – where they built the Temple. Where is the temple now? In us. We are Zion! The Lord shall send His Word out of us, to rule in the midst of His enemies. That’s interesting... God has to be the One doing the sending. He knows When, He knows What, and when you and I pray in the Spirit, we are praying out the How, the Where and the When, so we can be ready for it when it comes. So the Peters of our day can be ready to teach the fear of the Lord to the Church, and the Pauls ready to remove the obstacles to spreading the Gospel!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Scripture: Psalm 110:3

When we follow the progression of Psalm 110, we begin to realize something. The Holy Spirit is going to do this because the Holy Spirit is going to choose when to be the priest, when to be the king, and when to be the judge. As that unfolds, Verse 3 tells us how people are going to respond. Psalm 110:3 says, *“Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.”* This tells us where all this is coming from. These volunteers are not coming out of the progressive church who think

they can do whatever they want to do whenever they want to do it and still claim salvation. They rarely or never talk about sin, they never talk about righteousness, they never talk about holiness. You can't volunteer to represent a king and a judge if you don't acknowledge Him as King and acknowledge that He judges! So where DO the volunteers come from? From those who live their lives according to the Word, that believe in holiness, purity, honesty, and integrity! Psalm 110:3 seems to hint that the Lord will be using people like Joshua and Caleb who are 85, but their vigor has not abated. They still have the strength and the heart for war. No matter your age, you have the dew of your youth in the Holy Spirit! That thought should put a good shot-in-the-arm for every single one of us!

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Scripture: Psalm 110:4

Psalm 110:4 says, *"The LORD has sworn And will not relent, 'You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.'"* So what is first, foremost, and primary? God is a Priest! Everything He does, He does in order to save. Especially to include judging! He judges in order that a culture not be lost, or because the land has become filled with iniquity. When the Holy Spirit killed Ananias and Sapphira, the fear of the Lord fell upon the church, and thousands were saved. A perfect illustration of this concept is found in Psalms 78:34: *"When He slew them, then they sought Him, and they returned and sought diligently for God."* Lord, bring Your awesome deeds that multitudes may be saved!

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Scripture: Psalm 110:5-7

Psalm 110 finishes up with God talking about what it takes to wind up the age. Psalm 110:5-7 says: *"The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries. He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head."* Translation: He shall stand with His people! The reason that the people of God have their heads lifted up in the last days is because the words of God's Spirit are in their mouth, and because they have yielded to the Holy Spirit, death and life are in the power of their tongues. These words are not in the flesh, and not from a place of offense. These believers of the Last Days are mature. They can be trusted to do the will of God. Out of THAT group comes the witnesses that God can trust to strike the earth as often as they desire, and the breath of their lips will slay the wicked! What does that mean to those of us who are finishing our race? We have to prepare a generation to walk in this anointing! So how are we doing developing a relationship with the Father, like Jesus had?

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Scripture: Luke 17:20-21, Isaiah 9:6-7, Acts 2, Revelation 1:5-6

Pillar Number 5 is the Kingdom of God! Luke 17:20-21 says: *"Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, 'The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, "See here!" or "See there!" For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.'"* The reason why we can walk in stability is because we have been made a part of a Kingdom. It's actually within us. Luke described it as within us. Matthew 28 tells us what we do with that, called the Great Commission, and Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20 describes the Kingdom that's within us: And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, *"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen."* So, all spiritual authority is behind this Kingdom. This is a spiritual Kingdom, and spiritual authority has to be released spiritually! It's in Isaiah 9:6-7: *"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."* It is spiritual! Zeal moved Jesus to execute spiritual justice, and nobody could stop it! We have a Kingdom. We are citizens of this Kingdom according to Ephesians. Acts 2 says God

makes Jesus a King and Priest and Revelation 1:5-6 says Jesus makes US Kings and Priests. We are given authority in this spiritual Kingdom. The community of this Kingdom is our stability!

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Scripture: Hebrews 10:24-25

Stability in a way, requires community. How many mentally stable hermits do you know out there? While there may be a few, the mental image of the hermit may involve stability from a self-reliance perspective, but the hermit can't get as much accomplished as can someone who is plugged in with other people. Hebrews 10:25 reflects our need to be part of **Pillar 5, the Kingdom of God**. Hebrews 10:24-25 says: *"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."* Having the option to lean on other believers is something that Jesus forged into the DNA of the early church, and it is specifically noted that the closer we get to the final days, the more important community relationship will be! Even if we don't have a regular church to attend, it is so important to be connected with other believers. Friends and family who listen and lift us up in support, training and prayer can be just as much a community as the people sitting next to us in the pews. The most important thing to connect us with each other is our common bond through Christ. Let's work on building the Kingdom of God in our relationships so that when the times of trouble come, we have the Kingdom community available to us as a pillar of stability!

MONDAY, JULY 26

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:6-9, Numbers 12:3

How does this Kingdom work, or what would we say is the currency of this Kingdom? And by currency, we are talking about answering the question, What makes the Kingdom operate seamlessly? For believers to work seamlessly with one another requires the character of Christ! So, 1 Peter 5 tells us what the chief character of Christ is. This is the number one thing among the numerous qualities of Christ which undergirds ALL authority. 1 Peter 5:6: *"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,..."* This quality is **Humility**, and it is the **Sixth Pillar of Stability**. Accepting the absolute authority of God's Word over our life and living according to His standards. That is a divine humility. Moses was called the most humble man in the earth (Numbers 12:3). Now why was that? He bowed to God's Word. He saw the Word of God as the ultimate authority in his life. That is true Biblical humility. Dying to yourself and setting God up as Ruler of your life! I find a lot of people challenged by the following statement: "You can have the same relationship with the Father that Jesus had." When we say that, some people's eyes glaze over, and we can tell what they're thinking: "No way! I can't qualify for that!" It's not an issue of qualification. It's an issue of accepting what God says Jesus has done for us! True humility is believing and acting like what God says He did in the Word He actually DID! That's humility! Faith and belief must spur us to action! When we do that, He exalts us. Authority starts to work in our lives.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Scripture: James 4:6-7

Not my will but Yours be done! Leader after leader in the Old and New Testaments humbled themselves to God's Word and God's purpose as administered by the Holy Spirit. Few of them did so perfectly, with the exception of Christ, who is our One perfect example. That path of humility is our path! That's what makes us a son or daughter of the King! We don't qualify any other way! But even as He expects us to walk a more difficult road, He gives us more grace to walk the road. He says in James 4:6-7: *"God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.' Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."* Submit to God, accept what He says, live as He prescribes, choose righteousness, and authority will flow – giving us strength to resist the enemy. God will move the enemy out of the way! The Kingdom of God works. The engine of the Kingdom works with the oil of humility. No humility, and your engine is out of oil, and it will seize. Engines must have oil to function properly. Spiritual engines must run on the oil

of humility, and that is a choice that you and I need to make.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Scripture: Isaiah 59-60

Isaiah clearly saw the Kingdom of Christ and it is in Isaiah that we find the **Seventh Pillar of Stability** emerging. First in Isaiah, and then clarified in the New Testament. In Isaiah 59:19b it says, *“When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.”* Who or what is that standard? Verse 20: *“The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob, Says the LORD.”* Now, Zion is in us. So that’s the church. We have to embrace righteousness in order to qualify as an **Agent of Glory**. That’s who the church is in the last days. The remnants, the volunteers, the Psalm 110 people, the Psalm 2 people. They are all Agents of Glory in the last days. The church, by tradition, has made this glory into something mostly Priestly, when it’s not! It is every bit as much Kingly. That’s why righteousness is the only way to access this. Verse 21 continues: *“As for Me, says the LORD, this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants, says the LORD, from this time and forevermore.”* Arise, shine; For our light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon us. We become an **Agent of Glory** in the last days! We can tell by what emerges in Isaiah 60:2-5: *“For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.”* Our anointing is Glory! That’s **Pillar 7!** We understand that we have been designated by God as a standard against evil! We have to confront it, we have to judge it, we have to deal with it. But we deal with it **with** the glory! We don’t do that on our own. We cannot get offended by their sin, we have to pray it out. We have to hear what God wants to do, and we have to see what God wants to do. Do what we see, and declare what we hear! Isaiah 60:3 continues, *“The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see: They all gather together, they come to you; Your sons shall come from afar, And your daughters shall be nursed at your side.”* Being an **Agent of Glory** is different from each of the other **Pillars of Stability**, because God’s glory, which is the force empowering us, helps US to become a pillar of stability for others in our life! It allows us to serve dual functions in the Kingdom, we are empowered to judge the evil, and through God’s glory resting in us, we serve as a beacon calling to our friends and family to join us in the Kingdom!

THURSDAY, JULY 29

Scripture: Romans 13:1-4

We are to accept our position as an agent of glory in the last days. Romans 13:1-4 says *“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.”* Now, let’s look at Romans 13:4 in the NIV instead of the New King James... *“For the one in authority...”* (**ex-oo-see’-ah**). And in the end-times, this kind of authority (**ex-oo-see’-ah**) refers to all of us. The next question we must face is, when does an agent of glory become an agent of wrath?

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Scripture: Romans 12:19, Romans 13:1-4

Romans 12:19 says, *“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.”* This is a Second-Active-Aorist-Imperative verb, which means it is a command from On High! So, *“give place to wrath”* is a command! We are commanded to pray and give our grievances to God. In Numbers 14:10-12, when there is a dispute among the spies, the congregation aligns with those who wish to return to Egypt. And they are ready to stone Moses, Joshua, and Caleb. This is typical. It happens over and over

again with the children of Israel. It shows us how Agents of Glory operate. Verses 10-11 say, *“And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel. Then the LORD said to Moses: ‘How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them? I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.’”* There is the wrath of God. The glory brings the wrath. Moses has to pray as an **Agent of Glory** to stop the wrath, which he does over and over again! Now listen to God’s response. Because God is fed up! Numbers 14:20 says, Then the LORD said: *“I have pardoned, according to your word; but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD—”* We all remember, context determines meaning, so what is the context? Look at the following verses: 22-24: *“...because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.”* An **Agent of Glory** in scripture is an agent of salvation/wrath, a Priest/King. Who determines which of those two roles you are in at any given moment? God does! You and I must take His heart and apply it. The answer God gives is not always to save! What happened to the spies? Moses interceded, but God removed them anyway! Peter couldn’t save Ananias and Sapphira, either. Our job is to pray as the Holy Spirit leads. We are an **Agent of Glory**. You and I as Agents of Glory MUST be the ones to represent Him and do so with ZEAL!

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Scripture: Romans 12:19

The **Seven Pillars of Stability** are essential for us to thrive in the midst of instability and spiritual warfare. In order, they are 1. **Jesus Christ** and our relationship with Him, 2. the **Word of God** and its primacy in guiding our lives, 3. the **Holy Spirit** and our vital need to build our relationship with this member of the Trinity, 4. Being **Seated in Heavenly Places** which works in tandem with our connection to the Holy Spirit, 5. the **Kingdom of God** and our need to be in fellowship and community with other like-minded followers of Christ, and 6. **Humility**, the primary characteristic of Christ we need to emulate in order to unlock our potential within the Kingdom. These Six Pillars of Stability lead us to the 7. **Agents of Glory**, which primary purpose is not to be self-reinforcing in strengthening us, but instead is to help us act as a pillar of stability for those we love, in addition to preparing us to judge the evil in the world. God’s glory within us stabilizes us personally which leads us to represent Christ as His agents of glory! The times and seasons are not getting more stable, and we must work diligently to ensure that we are standing on a firm foundation so that we can serve as a rock for others when their difficulties become too much to bear. In giving others love and comfort, we are drawing them to Christ, and helping serve as a shield against the evil and the lies with which the enemy hopes to easily sink people! Judgment then ends the evil of the wicked, leading the righteous to rejoice! We are called to be steadfast, immovable and always abounding in the work of the Lord, and the **Seven Pillars** will build us and construct the foundation for that!