

EXAMINING OUR FAITH, part 22 quotes (final)

1 “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.” 2 Corinthians 13:5.

(Picture #14 - the Non-Immortality of the Soul)

2 What represents this platform?

This platform represents the faith or doctrinal beliefs that we all are to stand together in unity upon.

(Picture #15 - the Platform)

3 What represents this house that is built upon this platform?

“...ye are God's husbandry, **ye are God's building**....Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, **which temple ye are**.” 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16-17.

“What? know ye not that **your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

This house represents our individual character, our own personal experience or walk in this life.

(Picture #16 - the House)

4 What type of material are we to use in constructing our house or character?

“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. **Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble**”. 1 Corinthians 3:11-12.

Why are there only these two different groups of materials to choose from?

“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.**” 1 Corinthians 3:13.

Gold, silver and precious gems will come through the testing of fire without a problem. But wood, hay and stubble will be burnt up!

5 What exactly do the materials of gold, silver and jewels represent?

“The tongue of the just **is as choice silver**”. Proverbs 10:20.

“A word fitly spoken is like **apples of gold in pictures of silver**. As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprove upon an obedient ear.” Proverbs 25:11-12.

“...the lips of knowledge **are a precious jewel**.” Proverbs 20:15.

“He made the pillars thereof of **silver**, the bottom thereof of **gold**, the covering of it of purple, the midst thereof being **paved with love**”. Song of Solomon 3:10.

The gold, silver and jewels represent words of instruction, knowledge and love.

6 Where do we find correct instruction, pure knowledge and true love?

“The **silver is mine, and the gold is mine**, saith the LORD of hosts.” Haggai 2:8.

“**The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver** tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.” Psalms 12:6.

“I counsel thee to **buy of me gold** tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” Revelation 3:18-19.

7 What will the gold, silver and jewels from the Lord do for us if we use them in the construction of our character?

“Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and **I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness**: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine. Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee (thy feet) with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for **it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD.**” Isaiah 16:8-14.

“I (Jesus Christ) have compared thee, **O my love...Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels, thy neck with chains of gold. We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver.**” Song of Solomon 1:9-11.

“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for **he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.**” Isaiah 61:10.

“And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and **he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.**” Malachi 3:3.

8 What exactly do the wood, hay and stubble represent?

“As coals are to burning coals, and **wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.**” Proverbs 26:21.

“Shall the ax boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if **the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.**” Isaiah 10:15.

“Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?...**They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff** that the storm carrieth away.” Job 21:14-15, 18.

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! **Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!** Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth **the stubble**, and the flame consumeth **the chaff**, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: **because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.**” Isaiah 5:20-24.

“...they have no knowledge **that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save.**” Isaiah 45:20.

“Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces **the enemy**. And in the greatness of thine excellency **thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.**” Exodus 15:6-7.

The wood, hay and stubble represent strife, contention, being self-important and self exultant, casting away God's commandments, despising God's word, worshipping false gods, being enemies of God and rejecters of His truth.

9 What will the wood, hay and stubble from Satan do for us if we use them in the construction of our character?

“The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore **the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment**, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of **the ungodly shall perish**.” Psalms 1-4-6.

“Behold, they (those connected with Babylon and its king - Lucifer or Satan) shall **be as stubble**; the fire shall burn them; **they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.**” Isaiah 47:14.

“Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but **he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**” Matthew 3:12.

“For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and **the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.**” Malachi 4:1.

“What do ye imagine against the LORD? **he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.** For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, **they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.**” Nahum 1:9-10.

10 “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto **a wise man, which built his house upon a rock**: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; **and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.** And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto **a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand**: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; **and it fell: and great was the fall of it.**” Matthew 7:24-27.