

Bricks and Stones

The Building of Babel

“Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt (tar) for mortar. And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.” But the Lord came down to see the city and tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.” So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.” (Genesis 11:1-9)

The Building of Egypt

“Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, “Why are you dealing thus with your servants? There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us, ‘Make brick!’ And indeed your servants are beaten (they say it’s our fault), but the fault is in your own people.” But he said, “You are idle (lazy)! Therefore you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’ Therefore go now and work; for no straw will be given you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks.” And the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble after it was said, “You shall not reduce any bricks from your daily quota.” (Exodus 5:15-19)

The Building of The Temple

“And the king commanded them to quarry large stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay the foundation of the temple. So Solomon’s builders, Hiram’s builders, and the Gebalites quarried them; and they prepared timber and stones to build the temple.” (1 Kings 5:17-18)

God and Satan See People Differently

1. One major difference between God and Satan is how each views people:
 - Satan’s View of People**
 - a. Satan sees people as all the same and has no use for individualism.

- b. Socialism, Marxism, and Communism are Satan's display of how people are forced to be alike.
- c. People have no value except to accomplish the goals of the state.
- d. National healthcare does not work. Every person's needs are different.
- e. With individuals and socialism, one size does not fit all.

God's View of People

- a. God made us all unique and wants us and the world to see the value of our individual gifts and talents.
- b. God does not see us as the same, but wants us to work individually, but in unity.
- c. We are unique in our birth, new birth, callings, and gifts.
- d. We will also be unique into eternity, rewarded as individuals.

God Sees Us as Stones, Satan Sees Us as Bricks

1. Rocks are formed, bricks are made.
2. Rocks are formed by God. Bricks are made by men.
3. Stones, if properly chiseled, need no mortar.
4. Bricks are made from crushed stones.
 - a. The crushed pebbles are all mixed and molded.
 - b. Rocks are solid, stable. Bricks are unstable, easily crushed.
 - c. With socialism, money, possessions, and homes are passed around.
 - d. Eventually everyone lives in apartments, many families in each one, sharing water and heat.
5. Socialism and communism never work. It tries to make a society by crushing individualism, forcing everyone to conform.
6. Jesus builds His Church from stones. No two are alike.

The Stones of The Temple

"And the temple, when it was being built, was built with stone finished at the quarry, so that no hammer or chisel or any iron tool was heard in the temple while it was being built." (1 Kings 6:7)

"Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" (Mark 13:1)

The Stones of The Church

"Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5)

Stones Are Held Together With Mortar, Christian Are Held Together With Love And Unity

“...Holding fast to the Head (living stone), from whom all the body (living stones) ... knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.” (Colossians 2:19)

“But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection (growth, increase from God).” (Colossians 3:14)

...Bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:2-3)