

# East Union Baptist Sermon Notes



## 2- Study the Blueprints (the Word) 2 Tim 3:15-17

A Christian traveler was once packing his suitcase when he remarked to a friend, "Well, I still wish to pack a guidebook, a lamp, a mirror, a telescope, a book of poems, a number of biographies, a bundle of letters, a hymn book, a sharp sword, a small library containing 66 volumes...." "But," his friend interrupted him, "you've only got about six inches left in one side of your suitcase. How are you ever going to manage to get it all in?" The Christian smiled and his eyes twinkled, "That will be very easy," he said. "You see, all I have to do is put my Bible in the suitcase, for it is all the things that I have mentioned."

***2Ti 3:15-17 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.***

Have you ever put a swing set together? It is to say the least an adventure. Life is sometimes like a swing set it can be fun but boy the putting it together just right can be a challenge. Living the Christian life is not easy. It is downright complicated. Now I will admit that some can put a swing set together without the instructions but not many.

When some people begin to build a house, they most times have a full set of architectural drawings that they have paid a good copper penny for. These plans tell them where the plumbing goes, where the

wiring is to be located. Where the walls are to be joined and the doors and windows to be placed.

I had a friend who wanted to build a house. They called it the "house that Wayne built." They had the lot ready and drove the corner stakes and then his wife looked at it and declared that it needed to be a lot bigger. They moved the stakes and the house grew. When it was finally under roof it was a lot bigger than they wanted. They did not have a plan of what they wanted to build.

Today we continue our series of *Blueprint for a Christian Life*. If we are going to live the life that God has called us too then we certainly need to sturdy the blueprint, i.e. the Word of God, for instructions.

### **I- The Word is where we find Life:**

I realize we touched this last session but in order for us to build a Christian life we must be born again and be a Christian. The why and how is found in the blueprints of God's Word.

In our text, we see that Paul tells Timothy... ***"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."*** 2Ti 3:15

Now some people want to know the Scripture not so they can live them but so they argue them or attempt to refute them. There are countless testimonies of men who began to search the Scriptures for the wrong reason and found the Lord revealed to their heart. Jesus told the Jews in ***John 5:39-40 Search the***

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**scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. 40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.**

It is within this revelation of God that we find the instructions for building our life in Him after salvation.

## II- Blueprints are to be Used not Shelved:

Now I think you would agree that if you spend that pretty penny for the plans then when they arrive you never consult them again and just begin to throw things together it would not be wise. Here what Moses said through the Holy Spirit in **Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.**

Have we been guilty of trying to build a Christian life without taking the blueprint out and checking it. **Psa 119:9 says, Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.**

## III- Blueprint Will Guide You When Needed:

How many times has someone built something and then had to redo because they did not consult the blueprint? More times than you can imagine. The purpose of the blueprint is to guide you so you will minimize mistakes.

**2 Tim 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

### Tunnel Lights

Some Bible verses are like lanterns. They were made for dark places and dark hours. Did you ever hear about the little girl in the train? She couldn't understand why the trainman was going through the car lighting the lamps. She said, "Mother, it is the middle of the day and the sun is shining, why is he turning on those lights?" The mother smiled, and said, "Wait a bit and you'll see what the lights are for." In a moment or two the train plunged into a long, dark tunnel, and then the little girl saw the wisdom of the lamplighting process.

Dear friend, that Bible of yours contains thousands of verses that seem very ordinary and unnecessary. You can't see why God has gone to all the trouble of lighting those lamps of truth, but some day you're going into the tunnel of bereavement, or the tunnel of temptation, or the tunnel of suffering, and then you will value and appreciate the verses that appear to be commonplace today.

**Psa 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**

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## IV- Blueprints Help Get you Back on Track after a Mistake:

### Missing the Point

Orville and Wilbur Wright were excited. On December 17, 1903, they had finally succeeded in keeping their homemade airplane in the air for 59 seconds. Immediately they rushed a telegram to their sister in Dayton, Ohio, telling of this great accomplishment.

The telegram read, "First sustained flight today fifty-nine seconds. Hope to be home by Christmas." Upon receiving the news the sister was so excited about the success that she rushed to the newspaper office and gave the telegram to the editor. The next morning the newspaper headline read, "Popular Local Bicycle Merchants To Be Home For Holidays."

One of the greatest stories of the twentieth century was missed because an editor missed the point.

But who has not made the same mistake in reading the Scriptures? If one is too casual about it, he might learn some truth but miss that which is most important.

Beloved we need not miss the point of Scripture, reveal Christ, regenerate the lost and help us grow like Him. He Bible has a way unlike any other Word cutting to the core of our problem. **Heb 4:12** *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

We are also reminded by James that we need to practice what we are learning.

**Jas 1:21-23** *Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word,*

*which is able to save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:*

## V- Blueprint Does Not Need to be Altered:

The blueprint needing to not be altered is where my analogy is a little weak. I concede that there are changes that need to be made to house plans. Things just do not always work in wood and sheetrock like they do on paper. Having conceded this fact let me now say that the blueprint of God's Word does not need to be altered nor can it be improved upon. Some call the teachings of the Bible outdated and antiquated but that does not make them such. The Word of God simply needs to be believed, read and understood and then practiced to build a Christian life. As a matter of fact we are warned multiple times about trying to put our modernization of morals and feeling on it to change it.

**Deu 4:2** *Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.*

**Deu 12:32** *What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.*

**Rev 22:18-19** *For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away*

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***from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.***

The word of God is going to be going strong if this world last another thousand or then thousand years.

*When 10,000 Bibles were sent from America to the people of Romania, Communist Director Nicolas Ceausescu accepted them in order to get favored-nation status from the United States Congress. He then shipped them to a paper mill to be recycled into toilet paper. They were so poorly recycled that Bible words such as Esau, Jeremiah and God remained visible (Reader's Digest, July, 1990, p. 84).*

The wicked Communist leader eventually met a horrible death as his regime was toppled by the people he had persecuted. The anvil of God's Word had broken

another little human hammer that beat upon it.

The Word of God is able to do for us many things as we grow in our faith. In parting let me give us seven things that the Word of God is able to do. These are adapted from *Dake's Annotated Reference Bible*, (NT p241.)

1- Make wise unto salvation (**2 Tim 3:15; Rom 1:16; Jas 1:21**)

2- Produce faith (**2 Tim 3:15; Rom 10:17**)

3- Make Jesus Christ known (**2 Tim 3:15, John 5:39; 1 Cor 15:1-8**)

4- Build up (**Acts 20:32**)

5- Give inheritance (**Acts 20:32**)

6- Produce profit in doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (**2 Tim 3:16**)

7- Make the man of God perfect (**2 Tim 3:17**)

Are you using the blueprints of God's Word to shape your life?