

## ~FOUNDATION (319)

[Hebrew, *ya-sadh'*, Greek, *the-me'li-os*]

- The **base, or substructure, on which a building is erected** and which serves to distribute the weight of the superstructure equally over the ground.
- Since the strength and permanence of a building depend largely on the strength of its foundation, great care must be exercised in laying the foundation.
- Good foundations were vital in Palestine to withstand not only heavy rains, winds, and floods but also earthquakes, as this region is an earthquake area. A number of **Hebrew** terms rendered foundation come from the root *ya-sadh'*, meaning **found, lay the foundation, solidly fix.**
- Look! The land of the Chaldeans. This is the people, Assyria did not prove to be the one, they founded her for the desert haunters. They have erected their siege towers, they have stripped bare her dwelling towers, one has set her as a crumbling ruin. (**Isaiah 23:13**)
- And that you should forget Yehowah your Maker, the One stretching out the heavens and laying the **foundation** of the earth, so that you were in dread constantly the whole day long on account of the rage of the one hemming you in, as though he was all set to bring you to ruin? And where is the rage of the one hemming you in? (**Isaiah 51:13**)
- For upon the seas he himself has solidly fixed it, and upon the rivers he keeps it firmly established. (**Psalms 24:2**)
- The **Greek** term is *the-me'li-os*, used in a literal sense in;
- Suddenly a great earthquake occurred, so that the **foundations** of the jail were shaken. Moreover, all the doors were instantly opened, and the bonds of all were loosened. (**Acts of Apostles 16:26**)
- The Master Builder Yehowah, in answering Job out of the windstorm, compared the literal earth to a building.

- Where did you happen to be when I **founded** the earth? Tell me, if you do know understanding. (**Job 38:4**)
- Who set its measurements, in case you know, or who stretched out upon it the measuring line? (**Job 38:5**)
- Into what have its **socket pedestals been sunk down**, or who laid its cornerstone. (**Job 38:6**)
- When the morning stars joyfully cried out together, and all the sons of God began shouting in applause? (**Job 38:7**)
- Though the earth hangs upon nothing, it has, as it were, durable **foundations** that will not be made to totter, for the unchangeable laws governing the universe hold it firmly in place, and God's purpose toward the earth has remained unchanged.
- He is stretching out the north over the empty place, hanging the earth upon nothing. (**Job 26:7**)
- Have you come to know the statutes of the heavens, or could you put its authority in the earth? (**Job 38:33**)
- He has founded the earth upon its established places, it will not be made to totter to time indefinite, or forever. (**Psalms 104:5**)
- For I am Yehowah, I have not changed. And you are sons of Jacob; You have not come to your finish. (**Malachi 3:6**)
- On the other hand, injustice and disobedience to God's Law in effect tear down the **foundations** that give stability to the land, causing the **foundations** of the figurative earth, the people and their established systems to totter. (**Psalms 82**)
- When the **foundations** themselves are torn down, what must anyone righteous do? (**Psalms 11:3**)
- By justice a king makes a land keep standing, but a man out for bribes tears it down. (**Proverbs 29:4**)
- The laying of the **foundations** of the earth is not to be confused with, the founding **Greek, ka-ta-bo-les'** of the world. From Jesus words at;

- Certainly you are witnesses of the deeds of your forefathers and yet you give consent to them, because these killed the prophets but you are building their tombs. ([Luke 11:48](#))
- On this account the wisdom of God also said; I will send forth to them prophets and apostles, and they will kill and persecute some of them. ([Luke 11:49](#))
- So that the blood of all the prophets spilled from the founding of the world may be required from this generation. ([Luke 11:50](#))
- From the blood of Abel down to the blood of Zechariah, who was slain between the altar and the house. Yes, I tell you, it will be required from this generation. ([Luke 11:51](#))
- It is evident that Abel lived at the founding of the world, which has reference to mankind. The planet Earth's **foundations** had long previously been laid.

**See Also ABEL 1**

**See Also WORLD**

- The laying of a **foundation** was apparently a time for joy. At the founding of the earth the angels shouted in applause. Also, great rejoicing attended the laying of the foundation of Zerubbabel's temple, although those who had seen the glory of the former temple gave way to weeping.
- Where did you happen to be when I **founded** the earth? Tell me, if you do know understanding. ([Job 38:4](#))
- Into what have its socket pedestals been sunk down, or who laid its cornerstone. ([Job 38:6](#))
- When the morning stars joyfully cried out together, and all the sons of God began shouting in applause? ([Job 38:7](#))
- When the builders laid the **foundation** of the temple of Yehowah, then the priests in official clothing, with the trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph, with the cymbals, stood up to praise Yehowah according to the direction of David the king of Israel. ([Ezra 3:10](#))

- And they began to respond by praising and giving thanks to Yehowah, for he is good, for his loving-kindness toward Israel is to time indefinite. As for all the people, they shouted with a loud shout in praising Yehowah over the laying of the **foundation** of the house of Yehowah. ([Ezra 3:11](#))
- And many of the priests and the Levites and the heads of the paternal houses, the old men that had seen the former house, were weeping with a loud voice at the laying of the **foundation** of this house before their eyes, while many others were raising the voice in shouting for joy. ([Ezra 3:12](#))
- Hence the people were not distinguishing the sound of the shout of rejoicing from the sound of the weeping of the people, for the people were shouting with a loud shout, and the sound itself was heard even to a great distance. ([Ezra 3:13](#))
- As Solomon had used large, costly hewn stones for the **foundation** of the temple, so a **foundation** that is precious to God is laid for the spiritual house in which Jesus anointed followers are living stones.
- Jesus himself is the **foundation cornerstone**, upon the **foundation** of the apostles and Christian prophets the rest of the holy ones are built up into a place for God to inhabit by spirit. All the stones making up this spiritual house are selected by Yehowah.
- Coming to him as to a living stone, rejected, it is true, by men, but chosen, precious, with God. ([1 Peter 2:4](#))
- You yourselves also as living stones are being built up a spiritual house for the purpose of a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ([1 Peter 2:5](#))
- For it is contained in Scripture: Look! I am laying in Zion a stone, chosen, a **foundation cornerstone**, precious, and no one exercising faith in it will by any means come to disappointment. ([1 Peter 2:6](#))
- Certainly, therefore, you are no longer strangers and alien residents, but you are fellow citizens of the holy ones and are members of the household of God. ([Ephesians 2:19](#))
- And you have been built up upon the **foundation** of the apostles

and prophets, while Christ Jesus himself is the foundation cornerstone. ([Ephesians 2:20](#))

- In union with him the whole building, being harmoniously joined together, is growing into a holy temple for Yehowah. ([Ephesians 2:21](#))
- In union with him you, too, are being built up together into a place for God to inhabit by spirit. ([Ephesians 2:22](#))

### See Also CORNERSTONE

- Most appropriately, the 12 symbolic **foundation** stones of the New Jerusalem, bearing the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb, are precious stones.
- The wall of the city also had twelve **foundation** stones, and on them the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ([Revelation 21:14](#))
- The **foundations** of the city's wall were adorned with every sort of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald. ([Revelation 21:19](#))
- The fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh hyacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ([Revelation 21:20](#))
- The New Jerusalem described in Revelation is made up of the 144,000 who are betrothed to the bridegroom. The heavenly Jerusalem mentioned at;
- But you have approached a Mount Zion and a city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem, and myriads of angels. ([Hebrews 12:22](#))
- Comprises 144,001, this one being the bridegroom King. It is the city with real **foundations** that Abraham awaited.
- For he was awaiting the city having real **foundations**, the builder and maker of which city is God. ([Hebrews 11:10](#))

- Thus, the Bible books of Hebrews and Revelation show a close identity between the heavenly Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem.
- Jesus, who had in his pre-human existence worked alongside his Father as a Master Worker at the laying of earth's **foundations**, fully appreciated the value of a solid foundation, as is seen from his illustration of the discreet man who went down deep and laid the foundation for his house on a rock-mass, whereas the foolish man built his house upon the sand and suffered severe loss.
- When he set for the sea his decree that the waters themselves should not pass beyond his order, when he decreed the **foundations** of the earth. (**Proverbs 8:29**)
- Then I came to be beside him as a master worker, and I came to be the one he was specially fond of day by day, I being glad before him all the time. (**Proverbs 8:30**)
- Therefore everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who built his house **upon the rock-mass**. (**Matthew 7:24**)
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been founded upon the rock-mass. (**Matthew 7:25**)
- Furthermore, everyone hearing these sayings of mine and not doing them will be likened to a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand. (**Matthew 7:26**)
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and struck against that house and it caved in, and its collapse was great. (**Matthew 7:27**)
- Everyone that comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you whom he is like. (**Luke 6:47**)
- He is like a man building a house, who dug and went down deep and laid a **foundation** upon the rock-mass. Consequently, when a flood arose, the river dashed against that house, but was not strong enough to shake it, because of its being well built. (**Luke 6:48**)
- On the other hand, he who hears and does not do, is like a man

who built a house upon the ground without a **foundation**. Against it the river dashed, and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house became great. ([Luke 6:49](#))

- Likewise, in comparing the task of making Christians to a building work, Paul stressed the importance of building with noncombustible materials on Jesus Christ as the **foundation**, so as not to experience loss.
- According to the undeserved kindness of God that was given to me, as a wise director of works I laid a **foundation**, but someone else is building on it. But let each one keep watching how he is building on it. ([1 Corinthians 3:10](#))
- For no man can lay any other **foundation** than what is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ([1 Corinthians 3:11](#))
- Now if anyone builds on the **foundation** gold, silver, precious stones, wood materials, hay, stubble. ([1 Corinthians 3:12](#))
- Each one's work will become manifest, for the day will show it up, because it will be revealed by means of fire, and the fire itself will prove what sort of work each one's is. ([1 Corinthians 3:13](#))
- If anyone's work that he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ([1 Corinthians 3:14](#))
- If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet, if so, it will be as through fire. ([1 Corinthians 3:15](#))
- Paul also compared certain primary Bible teachings to a **foundation**, and he encouraged the Hebrews not to become static upon having learned the primary doctrine about the Christ but to press on to maturity.
- For this reason, now that we have left the primary doctrine about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying a **foundation** again, namely, repentance from dead works, and faith toward God. ([Hebrews 6:1](#))
- The teaching on baptisms and the laying on of the hands, the resurrection of the dead and everlasting judgment. ([Hebrews 6:2](#))

**See Also EARTH**  
**See Also HOUSE**