

## **JESUS CHRIST'S VISION AND ORDER FOR HIS CHURCH – Part I**

“Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on a rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it because it had been well built.” Luke 6:46-48

“No one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 3:11

“He (God) has put all things under his (Christ's) feet and has made him the head over all things for the Church, which is his Body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 1:22 & 23.

“By speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.” Ephesians 4:15 & 16.

### **Jesus Lays The Foundation Through Gifted Ministers**

“So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens but citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the **foundation of the apostles and prophets**, with **Jesus Christ** himself as **the cornerstone**. In him, the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom, you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.” Ephesians 2:21 & 22

“But each of us was given grace according to the measure of God's gift. Therefore, it is said, ‘When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people. The gifts he gave were that some would be **apostles**, some **prophets**, some **evangelists**, some **pastors and teachers**.’” Ephesians 4:7 & 8, 11

“Now, you are the Body of Christ, and individually members of it. And **God** has appointed in the Church **first apostles, second prophets, third teachers**; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?” 1 Corinthians 12:27-30

### **The Purpose And Function Of The Gifted Ministers**

“To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the Body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12 & 13