



Laying **THE** Foundation

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A Guide for Teaching Disciples

William Furioso ~ ACTpublications ~ [www.AtChristsTable.org](http://www.AtChristsTable.org)

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## At Christ's Table ~ ACTpublications

*"Explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words."*

1 Corinthians 2:13

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W.D. Furioso, Writer ~ Frances Furioso, Editor

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# THE Foundation

<sup>10</sup> “According to the grace of God, which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.<sup>11</sup> For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.<sup>12</sup> Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, <sup>[a]</sup>precious stones, wood, hay, straw....”

1 Corinthians 3:10-12

In this passage, Paul identifies **THE Foundation**<sup>1</sup> as Jesus Christ – specifically, our Relationship with Jesus Christ is the Foundation of the Christian life – both individually and collectively (the Church).

In Luke 6 Jesus tells the parable of the well-built house which was founded upon the (bed)rock. In v. 48 of the chapter, Jesus said the builder “**laid the foundation** upon the (bed)rock” – that is, he **laid and built the relationship** with Christ upon the (bed)rock. But what is the (bed)rock?

In Matthew 16:15-18 Jesus said: “Upon this (bed)rock”<sup>2</sup> - specifically, the Revelation of Christ - “I will build My Church.” Therefore: **Relationship with Christ** is built upon the **Revelation of Christ**.

- The **Revelation** supports the **Relationship**.

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<sup>1</sup> Greek: *themelios*, Strong’s #G2310

<sup>2</sup> Greek: *petra*, Strong’s # G4073

- We can only **relate** to that which has been **revealed** to us<sup>3</sup>:
  - The **revelation** determines the measure and the quality of the **relationship**.

The goal of the Christian life and also that of Church life is to gain **Revelation of Christ** and transform that revelation of Christ into **Relationship with Christ**. This is what Paul meant in I Corinthians 3:12, when he said: “building upon the foundation *with gold, silver and precious stones*”.

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<sup>3</sup> Cf. Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well: “You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship....” (John 4:22)

# The Revelation – Relationship Continuum

The dynamics of the model Christian life can be understood in terms of **A REVELATION - RELATIONSHIP CONTINUUM** – that is, spiritual growth and development along two tracks, as it were – **REVELATION of Christ and RELATIONSHIP with Christ**. What I am proposing in this particular publication is a type of “scope and sequence”<sup>4</sup> which could be subtitled *“Seeing Christ in the Whole of Scripture”*. The teachings in this publication have to do with the **REVELATION** aspect of the **REVELATION - RELATIONSHIP CONTINUUM**. This would be combined with another teaching series which could be entitled *“Fellowship with the Spirit of Christ”*. And that series would have to do with the **RELATIONSHIP** aspect via the practice of the various spiritual disciplines.

This is much like the flow of the Spirit-led Christian life, from time to time – from spiritual season to spiritual season, in the life of the disciple and the disciple-maker’s ministry, the Holy Spirit’s leading is followed - alternating between the various teachings from both of these series, on the one hand, furthering **REVELATION of Christ** and on the other hand, nurturing **RELATIONSHIP with Christ**. I have teaching notes which are freely

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<sup>4</sup> “Scope” is defined as a clearly stated set of learning objectives. “Sequence” is the order in which those objectives are taught. (Nichols, Shidaker, Johnson, & Singer, 2006)

available to the reader on the **RELATIONSHIP** aspect via the practice of the various spiritual disciplines.<sup>5</sup> But again, this particular publication has to do with the REVELATION aspect of the **REVELATION – RELATIONSHIP CONTINUUM**.

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<sup>5</sup> Request complimentary copies of .pdf files by emailing: [AtChristsTable@gmail.com](mailto:AtChristsTable@gmail.com)

# Seeing Christ in the Scriptures

20“Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast; 21these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and *began to ask him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”*

John 12:20-21<sup>6</sup>

## *The Goal of Teaching Disciples*

... SEEING JESUS throughout the Scriptures.

*Christ is the heart and theme of the Bible...*

The message in every book of the Bible, Genesis to Revelation, points to and reveals the person and the work of Christ.

*Jesus referred to Himself as “the Alpha and the Omega”<sup>7</sup>*

The first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Nothing precedes Alpha, and nothing follows Omega – Christ is all.

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<sup>6</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all scripture quotations are from the *New American Standard Bible*.

<sup>7</sup> Revelation 1:8

*“What the alphabet is to literature, Christ is to life. He is its essence, its structure, and its composition.... He conveys the truth of God to us just as the alphabet is the vehicle for bringing the thought of the author to the mind of the reader.”*

(Oral Roberts)

## *Christ is the “Word of God”<sup>8</sup>*

Christ is *The Logos of God* – that is, God’s full and complete thought, expression, message to humanity. We know and understand God through knowing and understanding Christ. Christ was next to – by the side of<sup>9</sup> – God in the beginning. All of creation was generated in and by and through<sup>10</sup> Him. And He is the Enlightener<sup>11</sup> of Humanity. (John 1:2-4)

*The Christ revealed in every book of the Bible “is the same yesterday, today and forever.”* Hebrews 13:8

*“... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and Perfecter of the faith....”*

Hebrews 12:2

*“... **beholding** as in a mirror **the glory of the Lord** (“in the face of Jesus Christ”<sup>12</sup>), we are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”* 2 Corinthians 3:18

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<sup>8</sup> John 1:1, 14

<sup>9</sup> Greek: *pros*, Strong’s # 4253, a preposition of direction.

<sup>10</sup> Greek: *dia*, Strong’s # 1223, a preposition denoting the channel of an act.

<sup>11</sup> Greek: *phos*, Strong’s # 5457, the noun form of the verb, *phaino*, to lighten.

<sup>12</sup> 2 Corinthians 4:6



# The Significance of “Seeing”

- “The revelation **OF** Jesus Christ” or “The Revelation **ABOUT** Jesus Christ.” (Revelation 1:1)
- “... **fixing our eyes** on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of faith....”  
Hebrews 12:2
- “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who **beholds** the Son and *believes* in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.” John 6:40
- “**Seeing**” and “*believing*” are inter-related, because the particular kind of “**seeing**” Jesus is referring to is a “**seeing**” Him for Who He truly is – namely, having *a personal revelation* of “the Author and Perfecter of the faith....” Hebrews 12:2
- More specifically, having *a personal relationship* with Jesus through “*coming to* Jesus, *believing in* Jesus, **beholding** Jesus, “*eating and drinking*” of Jesus. (John 6)
- Revelation and Relationship are also inter-related: To be a disciple of Christ you must have *a personal revelation* of Him and *a personal relationship* with Him<sup>13</sup>:
  - e.g., Peter: Matthew 16:13-18 + John 6:68-69
  - e.g., John the Baptist: John 1:29-34

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<sup>13</sup> Please read the following underlined scripture references.

- e.g., Philip and Nathaniel: John 1:43-51 (Jacob/Israel: Genesis 28:10-19)
- e.g., Martha: John 11:25-27
- John 12:20-21 Our goal in all spiritual pursuits and activities – “WE wish to see Jesus”.
- Our *relationship with Jesus* is the foundation of our spiritual house. 1 Corinthians 3:10-11
- The *revelation* determines the size and quality of the foundation. 1 Corinthians 3:12-14
- Our *revelation of Jesus* is the “bedrock” on which the foundation (*relationship*) is laid. Matthew 16:15-18; Luke 6:47-48

# Teachings ABOUT Christ & Teachings OF Christ

## REVELATION ABOUT THE CHRIST

- ***This begins in the Old Testament types and is fulfilled in Christ Jesus:***
  - Teaching Goal: “... seeing Him who is unseen....” (Hebrews 11:27b)
  - SEEING CHRIST in the Old Testament types, specifically, Moses’ Pentateuch (Cf. The Letter to the Hebrews)
  - “The beginnings of the discourse concerning Christ...” (Hebrews 6:1, lit.) is in the Old Testament.
  - Christ IS the “better things” referred to in the Letter to the Hebrews. (Hebrews 11:40)
  - “...the *shadow* of the Good Things to come (Christ)...” (Hebrews 8:5, 10:1)
  - “...but the *substance* belongs to Christ...” (Colossians 2:17)
  - A “shadow” is *revelation* of Christ. The “substance” is *relationship* with Christ.
- ***Seeing Christ – in the Old Testament types:***
  - The Tabernacle: Exodus 25-40
  - The Priesthood: Exodus 28-29 & 39
  - The Feasts: Exodus 23 & Leviticus 23

## REVELATION OF THE CHRIST

- ***Seeing Christ in - the Four Gospels:***

The witness of Christ *by the prophets*: The visions of Ezekiel (1:4-28) and John on the Island of Patmos (Revelation 4:6-11) come through the Four Gospels:

- Matthew: *The Lion (of Judah): The Lord and King*
- Mark: *The Ox: The (Suffering) Servant*
- Luke: *The Son of Man (Redeemed Humanity): The Pattern Son*
- John: *The Eagle: The Divinity of Christ*
- **The Revelation of THE WHOLE CHRIST: for relationship & for evangelism.**

- ***Seeing Christ - in the Four Gospels:***

The witness of Christ *by Jesus of Nazareth and by God the Father*:

- The Beatitudes: Matthew 5:1-12 ~ *The Character of the King and His Kingdom*
- The Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-7 ~ *The Law of the King and His Kingdom*
- The Parables: *The Mysteries of the King and His Kingdom* (Mark4:11)

- ***Revelation of Jesus Christ***

- Seeing Christ in - The Book of Revelation:

- “The revelation of Jesus Christ...” (Revelation 1:1)
    - “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Revelation 19:10)

# The Call of Discipleship

This teaching has focused on teachings on the **Revelation of Christ** and **Relationship with Christ** as the content of **Laying THE Foundation of Christ**. But I thought it necessary to also say a few words summarizing **The Call of Discipleship**. Study into the lives of disciples like Peter and Paul reveal that **The Call of Discipleship** is, indeed, a **LIFE CALLING**, not a season at the beginning of the Christian life, nor a mere Christian pastime. Jesus clearly explained **The Call of Discipleship** when He said: "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me." (Luke 9:23; Cf. Matthew 10:38, 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 14:27) Indeed, as Dietrich Bonhoeffer has said in *The Cost of Discipleship*, "When Christ calls a man, He bids him to come and die." **The Call of Discipleship** is a call to "The Way" <sup>14</sup> – the way of repentance, utter dependence upon Christ, and a baptism into the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. **The Call of Discipleship** is a call to *the God-Centered life*. **The Call of Discipleship** is a call to *seeing the Cross* as the throne of the Kingdom. **The Call of Discipleship** is a call to *walking the Way of the Cross*, that is, self-denial for the glory of God, and partnering in "the fellowship of His sufferings".<sup>15</sup> **The Call of Discipleship** is a call *to be conformed in the image*

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<sup>14</sup> Acts 2:38; 9:2; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:14, 22; Cf. Romans 8:2.

<sup>15</sup> Cf. Philippians 3:7-11

*of Christ.*<sup>16</sup> In our teaching, let us instruct and exhort others to answer whole-heartedly **THIS Call of Discipleship**.

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<sup>16</sup> Romans 8:28-29; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:18, Cf. 4:6

## For Further Study ...



## At Christ's Table School

*"A wide and effective door of the word  
to speak of the mystery of Christ"*

*(Acts 19:9-10, 1 Corinthians 16:9, Colossians 4:3)*

*"The things which you have heard from me ... entrust these to faithful men  
who will be able to teach others also."*

*(2 Timothy 2:2)*



# **A GUIDED COURSE OF STUDY (Free of Charge)**

Teacher, Bill Furioso, offers a **guided course of study free of charge** to faithful disciples of Christ who desire to pursue **Revelation of Christ, Relationship with Christ, and Reflection of Christ**.

- **Digital teaching articles.**
- **Study at your own pace.**
- **One-on-one mentoring.**

The scope and sequence of this course of study is based upon a 50-year Bible-teaching ministry in churches, seminars, and conferences on four continents; and is designed to establish Christ followers on **the Firm Foundation of God, consisting of Revelation of Christ, Relationship with Christ, and Reflection of Christ**.

## **THE GOAL**

The goal of this course of study is to equip those who desire to be *"diligent to show themselves approved to God, accurately handling the word of truth"*. (2 Timothy 2:15) and, in turn, to *"entrust these truths to faithful people who will be able to teach others also."* (2 Timothy 2:2)

## **HOW IT WORKS**

- A teaching in the form of a .PDF file will be sent to you via WhatsApp. This will not be in sections, but rather the entire teaching in one file.
- You can read and study the teaching article at your own pace. You can ask me questions, and/or discuss the teaching with me via email or WhatsApp.
- The goal is for you to "digest" the teaching and share it with those in your communities in your own way, as you are led by the Spirit.

- When you finish studying the teaching, send me a short paragraph on WhatsApp summarizing the teaching and what you received from it.
- When I receive that, I will then send you the next teaching.
- I will be keeping a record of which teachings you have completed.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- You can work at your own pace. *(There is no hurry.)*
- You can stop any time you wish.
- If you do not send me the summary, I will not send you the next teaching.
- If after some time I have not heard from you regarding the teachings, you will be dropped from the course.
- New teachings will always be added.

## **TESTIMONIES**

*“Thank you! Your faithfulness and humility are a true reflection of God’s heart. May you always feel the deep love and pleasure of the Father over your life. The work you’re doing to exalt His name is not in vain—heaven sees, and the fruit will echo into eternity. You are a light in this generation, a vessel of honor, and a living testimony of God’s goodness. May His joy be your strength and His presence your constant reward. Keep going—God is smiling over you!” \_ Victor Matagaro \_ Ogembo, Kenya*

*“God bless you Brother William, I really thank God, that I came across your teachings through brother Paul Rapoza. I believe God wants me to study under your feet. I don’t believe it is a coincidence.” \_ Emmanuel Tsegay\_ Frankfort, Germany*

*"I'm looking forward to this school and the mentorship. There were many times your writings have helped clarify or explain something I've known/felt in my spirit but unable to communicate or explain clearly. I'm thankful for your ministry." \_ Amber Gutierrez\_Houston, Texas*

*"I am so much humbled by all the subject topics you have continually sent me. I am so much encouraged to learn from you. You uplift my spirit and make me grow in a strong biblical foundation which you plant me on. Very good indeed. I thank God for putting you in my life, so that you are able to mould me accordingly in this spiritual growth. I have nothing more to add on to this except to say that where I have reached with my studies for sure tells a lot in my life. Continue feeding me with the word of God as you build me in a strong foundation of the Lord. Thank you and feel welcome always as you continue equipping me. Blessings." \_Zephaniah Owino\_Kisumu, Kenya*

*"Now, I'm seeing a big change in my life because of reading your lessons. And when the people I teach see me explaining more and referring them to many scriptures, they feel happy and pray blessings on you who is mentoring me. I'm happy to have a partner/ mentor cares for me through naturing me in the word of God. I and the group I have been with we are more than happy because of your commitment shown to us.!" \_ Joshua Mugabe\_Kijoyera, Uganda*

*"I want to say that it was planned from eternity to come across your platform. Thank you immensely. You sure have a disciple here learning from you. Awaiting the next teaching. God bless you, sir." \_ James Patrick \_ Delta State, Nigeria*

*"Thank you so much for the writings/teachings - such a gift!" \_ Denise Walsh \_ Elkin, North Carolina*

# **IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ENROLLING**

Email Bill Furioso: [AtChristsTable@gmail.com](mailto:AtChristsTable@gmail.com)

- Please include your WhatsApp phone number, your email address, your full name, and your city/town and country.
- After I receive your contact information, I will then ask YOU to connect with me on WhatsApp, and we will begin the course of study.

## **SCOPE & SEQUENCE**

*(This list of teachings is continually being updated.)*

### **100-Regeneration**

- 101-Foundation Stones
- 102-The Drawing of the Holy Spirit
- 103-The Meaning of Repentance
- 104-Coming to Faith in God
- 105-The Meaning of Baptism
- 106-Receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit
- 107-You Must Be Born Again

### **200-Conversion**

- 201-Called & Changed
- 202-Wrestling for the Blessing
- 203-Quo Vadis
- 204- Forsaking All to Follow Jesus
- 205-The Spirit of the World
- 206-The Church: A Community for Transformation

## **300-Laying the Foundation**

- 301-The Apostles' Teaching
- 302-The Power of His Resurrection
- 303-The Foundation of the Church
- 304-The Foundation of the Apostles & Prophets
- 305-Laying the Foundation
- 306-Seeing Jesus in the Letter to the Hebrews
- 307-And His Name Will Be Called...
- 308-Seeking the Lord

## **400-Spiritual Formation**

- 401-Spiritual Life & Growth
- 402-The Church: A Community for Transformation
- 403-Abide in the Vine
- 404-The Father's Heart
- 405-The God-centered Life
- 406-Transformation of Self
- 407-Purity of Heart
- 408-Brokenness

## **500-Holiness**

- 501-Walking with Sorrow
- 502-The Treasures of Darkness
- 503-A Terrifying Thing

## **600-The Cross of Christ**

- 601-The Way of the Cross
- 602-Who Is This King of Glory?
- 603-Seeing the Kingdom Through the Cross
- 604-The Cross & The Powers of Darkness
- 605-The Weakness of God

## **700-The Church which is His Body**

- 701-Christ is Prerequisite to Church
- 702-Concerning Gatherings
- 703-Hearing What the Spirit Says to the Church
- 704-Spiritual Gifts
- 705-From Children to a Mature Man
- 706-Christ-centered Discipleship & Equipping Ministries
- 707-The Foundation of the Apostles & Prophets
- 708-Headship, Leadership & The Body
- 709-The Fellowship of the Spirit
- 710-Breaking of Bread
- 711-Worship in Spirit & Truth.
- 712-The Power of True Praise

## **800-Doctrinal Studies**

- 801-Relating to the Triune God
- 802-The Mysteries of God
- 803-Deconstruction, Deconversion, & Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
- 804-The Gospel of the Lion & The Lamb
- 805-The Israel of God

## **900-Additional Ministry Resources**

### **901-Changed**

*A Closer Look at Things Relating to Conversion*

### **902-Good?**

*Jesus the Evangelist*

### **903-The Character of the King & His Kingdom**

*A Study Guide of the Beatitudes*

### **904-Heroic**

*Turning the Hearts of Spiritual Fathers & Children*

### **905-Facing the Future**

*Living with Faith & Wisdom*

### **906-Kingdom Households**

*Bearing One Another's Burdens & The Law of Christ*

### **907-The Husbandman**

*Cultivating Disciples*

### **908-Supporting the Work of Ministry**

*An Overview of New Covenant Finances*

### **909-A New & Living Way**

*A Series of Articles on New Covenant Worship*

### **910-The Vineyard of the Lord**

*The Condition & Commission of the Church*

### **911-A Remnant Will Return**

*A Series of Articles on the Ekklesia*

### **912-A Foundation for a Biblical Aesthetic**

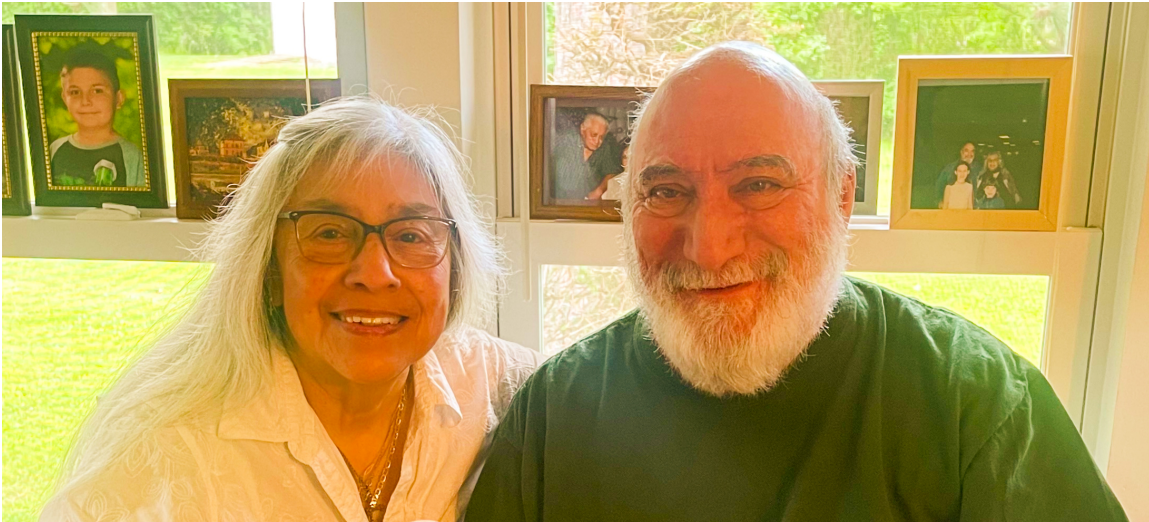
*God-centered Art as an Essential Form of Worship*

### **913-IN the World, But Not OF the World**

*A Series of Articles on Politics*



Bill & Frances Furioso  
~ At Christ's Table ~



Bill Furioso and his wife, Frances, have been married for more than 40 years, and have two children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Bill and Frances served as missionaries in South Africa for thirteen years making disciples, establishing churches, and training church leaders. Over a span of 40 years, they also traveled extensively in an itinerant Bible teaching ministry which took them to hundreds of gatherings on four continents ministering in churches, conferences, spiritual formation seminars, and home gatherings. They have shepherded several churches, disciplined many to Christ, and mentored church leaders in the USA and abroad.

Being an avid student by nature, Bill has done both formal and informal study in various fields including Education, Music, Philosophy and Theology. As a writer, he has authored many publications which are distributed worldwide. Because of Bill's disabilities resulting from a spinal cord injury, he can no longer travel, so their ministries of writing, recording, distributing, mentoring, and correspondence are now shared primarily via the Internet... [www.AtChristsTable.org](http://www.AtChristsTable.org)



# ACTpublications

*"Explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words." 1 Corinthians 2:13*

A teaching ministry from Bill and Frances Furioso

## At Christ's Table

*Disciples of the King and His Kingdom eating and drinking of Jesus*

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THE CENTER

THE FOUNDATION

of Biblical Christianity

with a view to

REVELATION of Christ

RELATIONSHIP with Christ

REFLECTION of Christ

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