

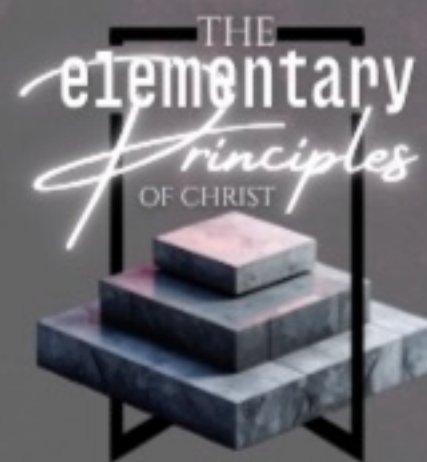
THE
elementary
Principles
OF CHRIST



The First Principles

The ABCs of God's Word

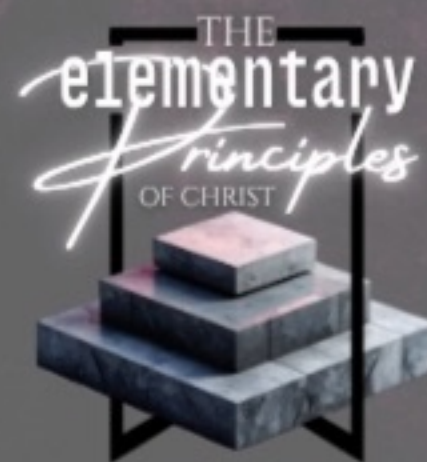
- “*Principles*” (**Hebrews 5:12**) — stoicheion — “primarily signifies any first things from which others in a series, or a composite whole take their rise” (VINE) (cf. **2 Peter 3:10-12** — physical elements)
- “*Of the oracles of God*” (**Hebrews 5:12**); “*of Christ*” (**Hebrews 6:1**)
- Importance of the first principles — **2 Peter 3:15-16**



The First Principles

The Milk for Babies

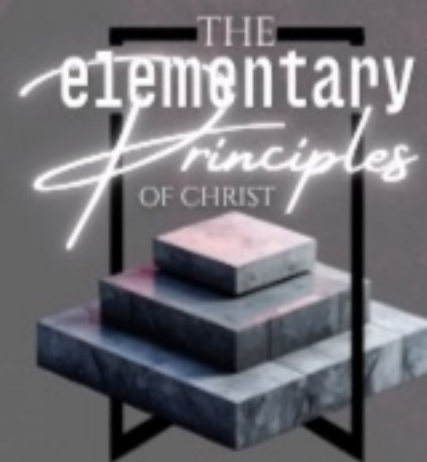
- Depth and value to God's wisdom — **Romans 11:33; Colossians 2:3**
- Complex matters are revealed to us — **Deut. 29:29; 2 Peter 3:16**
- Without the building blocks the deeper, grander themes cannot be understood — **Hebrews 5:9-11; 6:1-2**
- Milk before meat — **Hebrews 5:12-14**



The Foundation

The Substructure of Christian Faith

- “*not laying again the foundation*” (**Hebrews 6:1**)
 - Physically — **Matthew 7:25, 27**
 - Figuratively/conceptually — **Acts 17:28-29; Matt. 22:41-46**
- Elements which lead to further doctrine revealed and established in the faith — **Hebrews 6:1-2**
 - Without which there is no progress — **1 Corinthians 3:2**

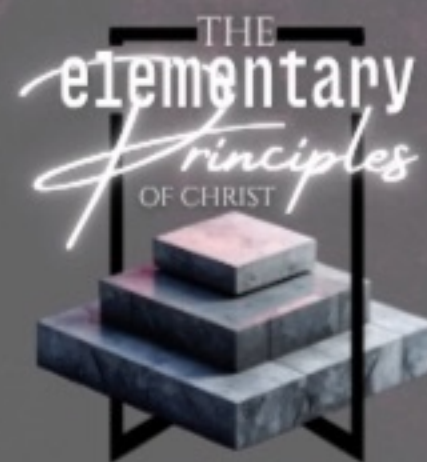


The Foundation

The Purpose of a Foundation

- Foundations are laid to be built on!
- Spiritually — **Matthew 7:24** — hearing and doing/building.
- The danger of not progressing — **Hebrews 6:4-8**

Foundations that are not built upon disappear beneath soil accumulation and overgrowth of vegetation.



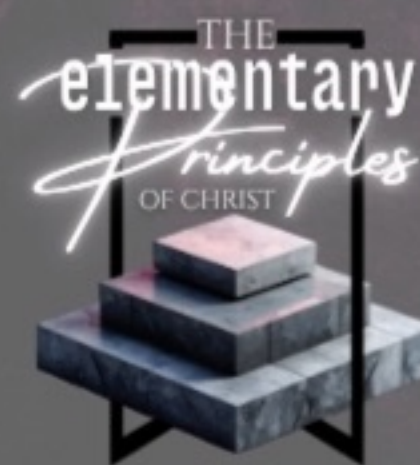
The Necessity of Maturing

The Will of God for Perfection

- “let us go on to perfection” (Hebrews 6:1) — *teleiotēs* – completion, maturity.

“till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”

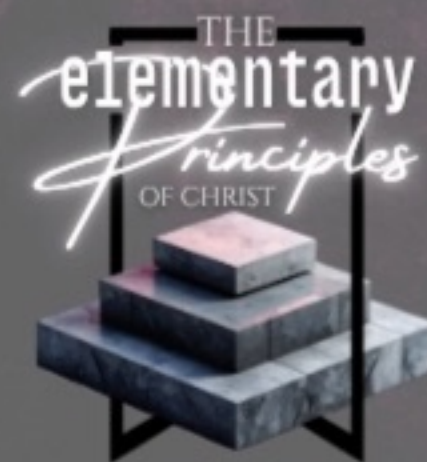
Ephesians 4:13



The Necessity of Maturing

The Dependence on God for Perfection

- *“And this we will do if God permits.”* (Hebrews 6:3)
- He works in us — Philippians 2:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13
- He calls us to activity and assures us He will do His part —
1 Thessalonians 5:19-24



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