

Ephesians 3:14-19

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been <u>firmly rooted and now being built up in Him</u> and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

Rooted

- It begins with the right soil Mark 4
 - Sown on the road, snatched away by Satan
 - Sown on rocky soil, received readily but have no firm root
 - Sown among thorns, received it but desires of the world kill it.
 - Sown on good soil grows good deep roots and abundant fruit.
- Once rooted, these roots represent strength
 - A tree that will not be moved Jeremiah 17:7-8
 - Growth is expected **Psalm 1:3, Eph. 4:14-15**

Grounded / Built-Up

- It begins with a strong foundation.
- The Two Foundations parable Matt. 7:24-27
- A firm, secure foundation Isaiah 28:16
- Chief cornerstone Psalm 118:22, Matt. 21:42

Grounded / Built-Up

- God's Spiritual Building Eph. 2:19-21, 1 Cor.
 3:9
 - Living stones 1 Pet. 2:4-8
 - A precious, solid cornerstone in Christ
 - A strong foundation laid upon that cornerstone by the apostles and prophets.
 - Pillars of support
 - Gal. 2:9
 - 1 Tim 3:15

In Love

- Eph. 3:17, 19
 - Rooted and grounded in love -> know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge
 - Beginning of that love
 - John 3:16 God SO loved the world
 - Rom. 5:8 While we were yet sinners
- But how can I love God if I don't know God? 1
 John 4:7-12
- Love through obedience John 14:15

In Love

- Loving one another
 - How can I love you if I don't know you very well?
 - "I don't know half of you half as well as I should like; and I like less than half of you half as well as you deserve."
- Love is a factor in church discipline as well

Rooted and Grounded

- **To our young folks** With strong roots, grown in love for God and fellow brethren, it will be harder for you to be shaken or influenced by the winds of change in college or the workplace.
- **To all of us** With a strong foundation built on the chief cornerstone the foundation laid by the apostles and supported by the pillars of your fellowship, you can weather the storms of difficulties in life.
- For those who have not been baptized which type of soil are you?