

Toward Understanding Godward Edification

Natural uses—constructing or reinforcing an external physical structure

- 1) Used for normal building construction or reinforcement
 - a) The building of a city—Luke 4:29
 - b) The building of a synagogue—Luke 7:5
 - c) The building of the temple by Solomon—Acts 7:47, 49
- 2) Used in an illustration
 - a) Negatively
 - i) As an illustration of not founding one's life on the solid rock of faith in Christ—Matthew 7:26; Luke 6:49
 - ii) As an illustration of the destructive dependence on self-effort—Luke 12:18
 - iii) As an illustration of the Jewish leaders' rejection of Christ—Matthew 21:42; Mark 12:10; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11; 1st Peter 2:7
 - iv) As an illustration of the Jewish leaders' hypocritical religious activities—Matthew 23:29; Luke 11:47, 48
 - v) As an illustration of returning to a works-based religion—Galatians 2:18
 - b) Positively
 - i) As an illustration of founding one's life on the solid rock of faith in Christ—Matthew 7:24; Luke 6:48
 - ii) As an illustration of God's work in the nation of Israel—Matthew 21:33; Mark 12:1
 - iii) As an illustration of Christ resurrecting His body—Matthew 26:61; 27:40; Mark 14:58; 15:29; John 2:20
 - (1) Though misinterpreted by His enemies
 - iv) As an illustration of "counting the cost" of discipleship—Luke 14:28, 30
 - v) As an illustration of the normalcy of life—Luke 17:28
 - vi) As an illustration of the Christian's eternal body—2nd Corinthians 5:1

Metaphorical uses—constructing or reinforcing a spiritual structure

- 1) **Negative** uses
 - a) Encouraging a Christian with a weak conscience to do something they are not assured they should do—1st Corinthians 8:10
 - b) Self-absorption in Christians is harmful to others—1st Corinthians 14:4
 - c) Unnecessarily speaking in a foreign language does not benefit other Christians—14:17
- 2) **Positive** uses
 - a) Constructing or reinforcing an external structure based on an internal commonality
 - i) The local congregation is God's building—Matthew 16:18; 1st Corinthians 3:9; Ephesians 2:21
 - ii) The establishment of local congregations through preaching the gospel to those who have never heard—Romans 15:20
 - iii) The local congregation is built on the foundation of the apostles and NT prophets—Ephesians 2:10
 - b) Constructing or reinforcing an internal structure
 - i) An act of the will
 - (1) Something that is to be pursued—Romans 14:19; 1st Corinthians 14:12

- (2) Something that is commanded—Romans 15:2; 1st Corinthians 14:26; 1st Thessalonians 5:11
- ii) An act of speech
 - (1) Something that is achieved through speaking God's Word to others—1st Corinthians 14:3-5
 - (2) Something that is accomplished by the proper use of speech—Ephesians 4:29
- iii) An act of affection
 - (1) Something that is accomplished by the exercise of genuine love—1st Corinthians 8:1
 - (2) Something that is accomplished in the sphere of love—Ephesians 4:16
- iv) An act of ministry
 - (1) Something that is accomplished through the God-given authority of the apostles—2nd Corinthians 10:8; 13:10
 - (2) Something that is a goal of God-centered ministry—1st Corinthians 3:10, 12, 14; 2nd Corinthians 12:19; Ephesians 4:12, 16; 1st Peter 2:5
 - (3) Something that is associated with peace, living in the fear of the Lord and in the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, and church numerical growth—Acts 9:31
 - (4) Something that is not always accomplished by Christians—1st Corinthians 10:23
 - (5) Something that is accomplished by God through His Word—Acts 2:20; Colossians 2:6-7
 - (6) Something that is accomplished as Christians pray in the sphere of the Spirit—Jude 1:20

New Testament Greek words that serve as the basis for the about outline

- 1) Noun—edification [οικοδομή oikodome] (18x) [# 3619]
 - a) Gospels
 - i) Matthew—24:1
 - ii) Mark—13:1, 2
 - b) Epistles
 - i) Romans—14:19; 15:2
 - ii) 1st Corinthians—3:9; 14:3, 5, 12, 26
 - iii) 2nd Corinthians—5:1; 10:8; 12:19; 13:10
 - iv) Ephesians—2:21; 4:12, 16, 29
- 2) Verb—edify [οικοδομέω oikodomeo] (39x) [# 3618]
 - a) Gospels
 - i) Matthew—7:24, 26; 16:18; 21:33, 42; 23:29; 26:61; 27:40
 - ii) Mark—12:1, 10; 14:58; 15:29
 - iii) Luke—4:29; 6:48, 49; 7:5; 11:47, 48; 12:18; 14:28, 30; 17:28; 20:17
 - iv) John—2:20
 - b) Acts—4:11; 7:47, 49; 9:31
 - c) Epistles
 - i) Romans—15:20
 - ii) 1st Corinthians—8:1, 10; 10:23; 14:4 (2x), 17
 - iii) Galatians—2:18
 - iv) 1st Thessalonians—5:11

- v) 1st Peter—2:5, 7
- 3) Verb—build up [ἐποικοδομέω epoikodomeo] (8x) [# 2026]
- a) Acts—20:32
 - b) Epistles
 - i) 1st Corinthians—3:10 (2x), 12, 14
 - ii) Ephesians—2:20
 - iii) Colossians—2:7
 - iv) Jude—1:20