

The Greatest Ingredient in Building Bridges –



Phil. 2:5-11

“Building the Bridge for Mankind to Heaven”

Phil. 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

9 Wherefore **God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:**

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Our theme this year is *Building Bridges*, and this morning we will continue looking at the topic that we will cover for a few more weeks:

The Greatest Ingredient in Building Bridges – LOVE

The main ingredient in building a relationship with Christ = LOVE.

The main ingredient in building a marital relationship = LOVE.

The main ingredient in building a parent/child relationship = LOVE.

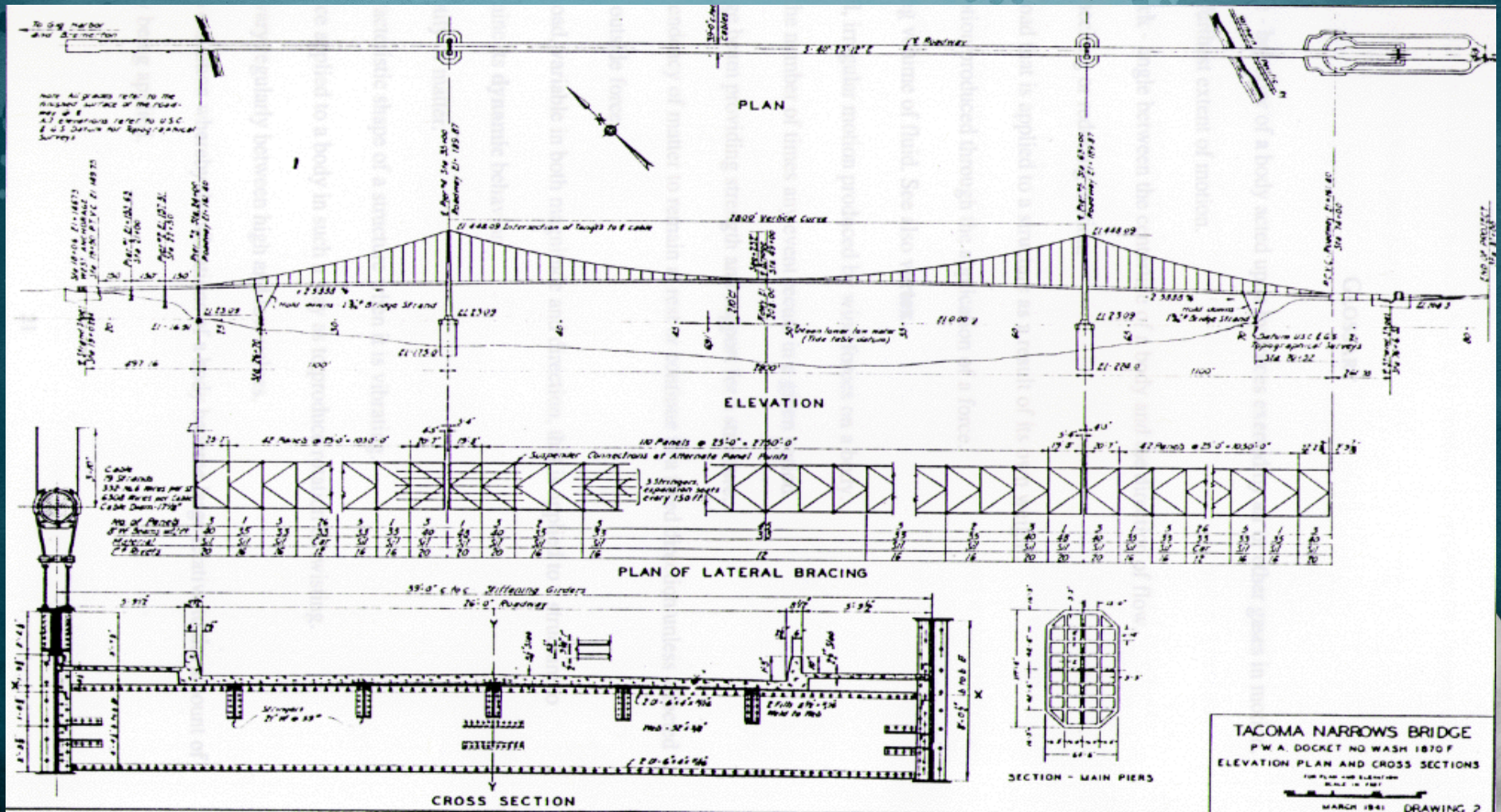
The main ingredient in building a loyal friendship = LOVE.

For us to be “building bridges” with anyone,
our foundation must be built upon LOVE.



"Building the Bridge for Mankind to Heaven"

I. THE ORGANIZATION AND CONCEPTION OF THE BRIDGE



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A. The Plan – God is the engineer and He drew the blueprints for the bridge that mankind would need to go to heaven.

- God created the world for His glory, Isa. 43:7.
- God, who is holy, knew before He created the universe, that Adam would sin.
- God planned a remedy for mankind's sin, through His Son, the Lamb of God.

Rev. 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**



- God began to reveal His plan right after Adam fell, in the Garden of Eden.

Gen. 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; **it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.**

This is known as the protoevangelium—the first gospel presentation.

This is also known as the first Messianic prophecy.

- God, in His foreknowledge, knew those who would cross the “Bridge of Salvation.”

Eph. 1:4 According as **he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:



B. The Problem

Sin – Rom. 3:23 For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned**:

Prov. 12:15 **The way of a fool is right in his own eyes**: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

Prov. 16:25 **There is a way that seemeth right unto a man**, but **the end thereof are the ways of death**.

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way**, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**.



1 Tim. 2:5 For there is one God, and **one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**

C. The Place

Jerusalem – Zech. 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, **O daughter of Jerusalem**: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

D. The Personnel

Lu. 9:22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be **rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes**, and be slain, and be raised the third day.



Jn. 19:6 When **the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.**

Jn. 19:15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? **The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.**

II. THE OPERATION IN CONSTRUCTING THE BRIDGE







<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Construction+of+the+Brooklyn+Bridge&FORM=IRIBEP>

A. The Participation

Phil. 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

Jn. 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished**: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.



B. The Purpose

Jn. 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but **that the world through him might be saved.**

Lu. 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a **Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

4 But after that **the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,**

5 **Not by works of righteousness which we have done,** but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

6 Which **he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;**

7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



III. THE OPENING AND COMMISSION OF THE BRIDGE



[http://en.es-static.us/upl/2013/06/Brooklyn Museum - Birds-Eye View of the Great New York and Brooklyn Bridge and Grand Display of Fire Works on Opening Night-e1370988528735.jpg](http://en.es-static.us/upl/2013/06/Brooklyn_Museum_-_Birds-Eye_View_of_the_Great_New_York_and_Brooklyn_Bridge_and_Grand_Display_of_Fire_Works_on_Opening_Night-e1370988528735.jpg)

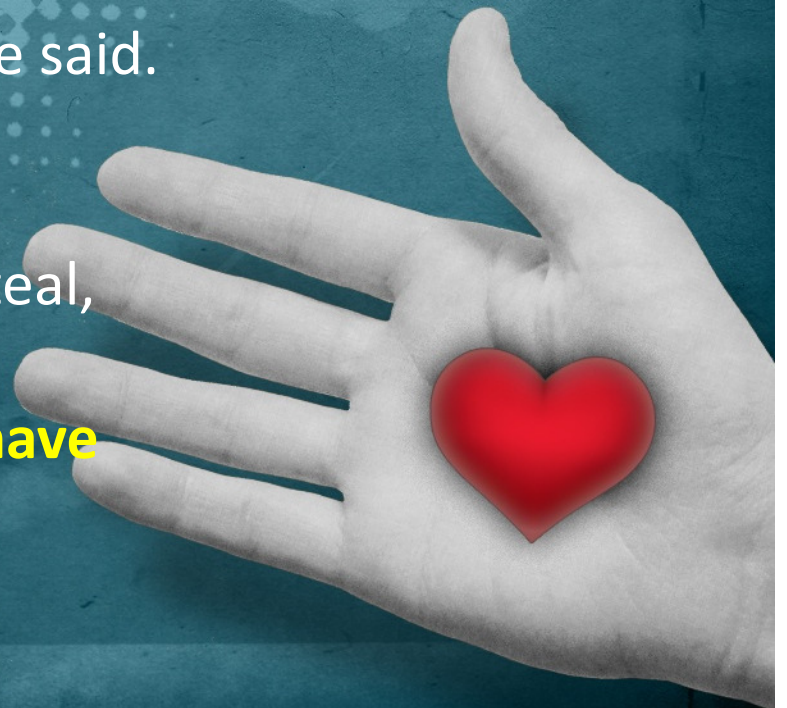
A. The Promise

Mark 8:31 And he began to teach them, that **the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.**

Mt. 27:63 Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, **After three days I will rise again.**

Mt. 28:6 He is not here: for **he is risen**, as he said.
Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Jn. 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**



Jn. 11:25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

1 Pet. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which **according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

B. The Power

Rom. 1:4 - And **declared to be the Son of God with power**, according to the spirit of holiness, **by the resurrection from the dead:**

Phil. 3:10 That I may know him, and **the power of his resurrection**, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;



C. The Program – Mt. 28:16-20, Acts 1:8

Mt. 28:6 He is not here: **for he is risen**, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

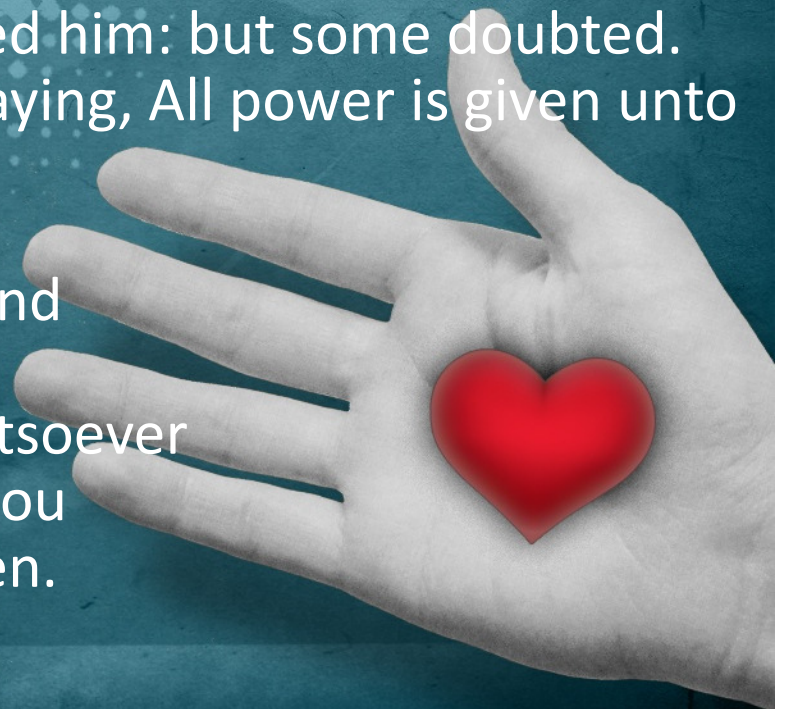
Mt. 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.



Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**



Conclusion

2 Cor. 5:14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.

17 **Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**



18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For **he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**





Jesus Christ