

A photograph of a large-scale construction project at sunset. The building's steel framework is completely encased in a dense network of scaffolding. The sky transitions from a bright orange glow on the left to a deep blue on the right. The overall mood is one of industriousness and the beginning of a new structure.

# FOUNDATIONS

*of the faith*



**Acts 26:17-18:** delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



***Sanctify - means set apart as holy or dedicated to God***

- Internal
- External

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



## ***Luke 4:18-19 - Identical to Isaiah 61:1-2***

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



***Isaiah 61:1-2:*** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

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***Isaiah 58:6:*** "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?"

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



“Essentially, a yoke was a harness used by oxen and other animals to ease the work of hauling a load. It was also meant as a designation of servitude and carrying the burden of a task or mission.”

*christianity.com*

***Justice means things being as they should be***

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



***Proverbs 21:15:*** When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

***Psalms 37:27-28:*** Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. <sup>28</sup> For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



# ***Causes of Poverty***

Christopher Wright - Old Testament Ethics for the People of God

1. Natural Causes

2. Laziness

***Proverbs 20:13:*** Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; Open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



# Causes of Poverty

## 3. Oppression

a. 2 Kings 4:1-7

b. Ruth and Naomi

c. Exodus 22:25: If thou lend money to any of my people with thee that is poor, thou shalt not be to him as a creditor; neither shall ye lay upon him interest.

d. Deuteronomy 15:7-11

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



## *Causes of Poverty*

### 4. Ethnically Weak

***Genesis 16:1-4:*** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup> And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



# Causes of Poverty

## 4. Ethnically Weak

**Genesis 16:1-4:** <sup>3</sup> So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. <sup>4</sup> And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



## *Causes of Poverty*

### 5. Royal Excess, Corruption, and Abuse of Power

***Nehemiah 4:7-8:*** But Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the men from Ashdod were very angry. They heard that the people continued working on the walls of Jerusalem. They heard the people were repairing the holes in the wall.

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



## ***Causes of Poverty***

### **5. Royal Excess, Corruption, and Abuse of Power**

***Nehemiah 4:7-8:*** <sup>8</sup> So all these men got together and made plans against Jerusalem. They planned to stir up trouble against Jerusalem. They planned to come and fight against the city.

***Jeremiah 22:11-17***

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



# *Causes of Poverty*

## 6. Judicial Corruption and False Accusation

*Isaiah 10:1-2*

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



1. Natural Causes

3. Oppression

4. Ethnically Weak

5. Royal Corruption

6. Judicial Corruption

2. Laziness

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



**Acts 26:17-18:** <sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

**FOUNDATIONS**  
*of the faith*



A construction site at sunset. A building is under construction, completely covered in a dense network of metal scaffolding. The sky is a gradient of blue and orange, indicating the time is either dawn or dusk. The building's structure is dark, and the scaffolding is silhouetted against the bright sky. The overall mood is one of industriousness and the beginning of a new project.

# FOUNDATIONS

*of the faith*