

THE BULWARK

RENOVATION

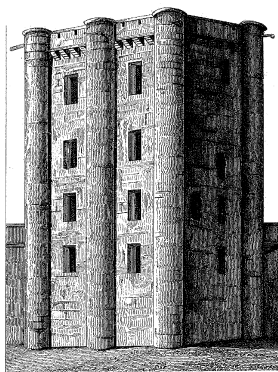
August 21, 2022

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“Mark well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that you may tell it to the generation following”
Psalms 48:13

Home renovation programming is gaining more traction with each passing day. Whole channels are devoted to home repair and renovation., DIY, HGTV and Magnolia Network to name but a few. Home owners across the country have been inspired to “grip it and rip it” in undertaking various do it yourself home remodeling. Amazing what new flooring, a fresh coat of paint, wallpaper, new tiling or such like can bring to a room or entire house. The value of the house is increased accordingly. But such doesn’t come without time, energy and yes frustration, but in the end the worth is realized.



“But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ.” (Philippians 3:8-9) That is the mind set every child of God

must possess. Consider as well what is found in the 119th psalm, verse seventy-three, “Thy hands made me and fashioned me; give me understanding, that I may learn Thy commandments”.

Using as a backdrop renovation, consider that those of us who have put on Christ in the waters of baptism that we are no longer our own; ownership has been turned over to God. *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.”* (1Corinthians 6:19 see also Galatians 2:20) Cognizant of this fact, we should not then be amazed at the need to be renewed an refashioned in accord with the desires of the Owner. Which in a spiritual sense is the process of conversion. *“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...”* (Romans 12:2)

We are shaped and fitted by and through the word. Being “fitted together” with those of like precious faith, in the household of God as Paul explains in some detail in the second chapter of Ephesians and verses nineteen through twenty-two. Now stop and think about what is involved in being “fitted”. There is a standard, a measurement set in place by our Owner; the God of Heaven.

So the question arises as to IF you have allowed yourself to be fitted for service? Keep in mind this *“fitted for service”* is not a one and done process. Just as in a home ownership there is always the need for upkeep, *“...our inner man is being renewed day by day.”* (2Corinthians 4:16b) (wbe)