

Study of Matthew

February 26, 2023

Discussion Question: In what ways are you building on a solid foundation?

Matthew 7:24 – 27

We have heard, let's "weather the storm".

That phrase is used a lot in life: Sports, Warfare, Relationship and Weather

The truth is in all these situations you are not just riding it out, you are depending on something that has been built, trusting it to withstand the circumstances that you are in.

- When storms hit in sports it determines if what has been practiced and how the team prepared are adequate.
- When storms hit in warfare it determines if those under command have been taught how to adapt and respond.
- When storms hit relationships, it test the depth of people's love and commitment to the relationship.
- When weather storms hit, it tests whether the building is up to a proper standard to withstand such a storm.

Depending on what you have built determines whether you are able to weather that storm.

Jesus speaks of two types of lives where there are similarities, but there is one difference that determines the outcome. The similarities are that both:

1. Hear (vs. 24 & 26)

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine..."

In the text we find that both types of people hear. Everyone hears

First, we have a responsibility to share the truth of the Gospel so people will hear. Don't say they listen, but that they hear.

Hearing simply meaning, **it comes to the ears**

Because hearing is the fastest sense, you can't unhear... you might decide to not heed but you can't unhear.

Second, Creation is being heard every day in every language. Psalms 19:1 – 4

Therefore, people are without an excuse when it comes to hearing:

Romans 1:20 *"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."* [KJV]

2. Build House

The desire for a house seems to be ingrained in the heart of all people around the world.

The word for house can imply more than a building, it can mean a family, the inhabitants of the building and furthermore it can imply the wealth and goods that are inside of the building.

People who hear build...make no mistake everyone in this room is building a house...a place for family and for your prized possessions.

NOTE: Jesus does not discuss the size of the house or what it is made of...HE just says people build.

3. Have Storms

The storms come from all different directions. Rain from above, floods from beneath, and winds around you. Jesus says that both types of people have storms.

If you live Godly, you will have storms. If you live ungodly, you will have storms. Storms come to the just and the unjust

Yes, even the storms are talking... Psalms 148:7-8 *"Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, 8 fire and hail, snow and mist (vapor), stormy wind fulfilling his word!"* [ESV]

Those are the similarities. **What is the difference between the two?**

4. What you Hold on to

The key that makes the difference is that one hears and does the what Jesus says Jesus says that one is wise and the other is foolish.

The word doeth implies to adopt a way of expressing by act the thoughts and feelings.

When we do what Jesus says, we are committed to acting on what we have heard.

To ignore the teachings of Jesus results in total spiritual disaster...a collapse and great fall of the house that has been built.

We have a choice; Hear and ignore or hear and do

The way to stand the test of time, is to be built on the solid rock. Build on the foundation of Jesus Christ

Heb 6:1-2 *"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ (elementary teachings), let us go on unto perfection (maturity); not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."* [KJV]

NOTE what is in this foundation:

The thief come to steal, kill and destroy

Prov 29:24 *"A man who assists a thief must really hate himself! For he knows the consequence but does it anyway."* [TLB]