

A Sure Foundation

The Wise man and the Fool

Introduction

1. Every house must be built upon a strong foundation if it is going to holdup through time.
2. In many ways a person's life is much like a house, for it is built upon the principles that the person chooses to live by.
3. The principles upon which a person builds his/her life will determine whether it will withstand the tempests and challenges of life.
4. Jesus teaches us the importance of building our lives upon the proper foundation.
5. He also teaches us what that foundation is.

Discussion

I. Building a House

- A. Every house is built upon a foundation.
 1. It is the base upon which the house rests; it is the footing by which the house is held fast.
 2. Likewise, every person's life is built upon certain principles.
- B. Whether a house stands or falls depends on the strength of its foundation.
 1. Like a foundation, the principles upon which we establish our lives will determine whether we fail or succeed in life.
 2. The question is, is our house built on sand or upon a rock?
- C. All men are building houses.
 1. In the parable, our houses are our lives.
 2. The principles that we choose to live by make up the foundation upon which our lives are built.
 3. Every person is building a house, but some houses will stand while many others will fall.
 4. In His teachings, Jesus gives us principles which, if we establish our lives on them, we will stand firm through life's tempests.

II. The Right Foundation

- A. *"Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock."*
- B. The words of Jesus are solid as a rock; immoveable, unchangeable, eternal.
 1. Matt. 24:35: *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."*
 2. Those who build their lives on His words will not be moved.
- C. The words of the Lord will help us to stand when we are facing the storm:

1. Mortal peril: Matt. 5:10-12; 1 Pet. 4:14-16.
2. Enemies: Matt. 5:43-48.
3. Financial struggle/loss: Matt. 6:19-21.
4. Judgment: Matt. 7:1-2.
5. Difficult decisions: Matt. 7:13-14.
6. False doctrine: Matt. 7:15-20.
7. Matt. 7:21-23: Whatever the challenge, we will stand if we walk in the Lord.

III. The Wrong Foundation.

- A. *“Everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them will be like a foolish man who builds his house on the sand.”*
- B. As sand washes away in the tide, human wisdom will wash away when tested.
 1. 1 Cor. 3:19-20: *“For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.”*
 2. 1 Cor. 1:19: *“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.”*
- C. Gal. 6:7: We will reap what we sow:
 1. If we lie to get out of trouble, we deceive ourselves (Rev. 21:8).
 2. If we steal to avoid hunger, we will never be made full (1 Cor. 6:9-10).
 3. If we cheat for profit, we will be cheated (Micah 2:1-3).
 4. If we trust in riches, they will fail us (1 Tim. 6:10).
 5. If we give heed to false doctrine, it will condemn rather than save (Gal. 1:8-9).
 6. If we hide from our sins, they will find us out (Num. 32:23).

Conclusion

1. Men often think they can succeed without God.
2. None have been able to so far.
3. Whatever we are struggling with, we will continue to struggle until we make the words of Christ the foundation for our lives.
4. If we want to stand through the storm, we must trust in the Lord and walk in His ways.

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April, 2007*