

# Choosing the Right Foundation

\*Compare to Luke 6:46-49

#### 2. A Practical Illustration

- \*The two foundations are illustrations of those who hear the word of God and obey them (rock), and those that hear the word of God and DO NOT obey them (sand).
- \*Even if someone is not an expert on how to build a house, this illustration is still very simple, practical, and easy to understand.
- \*Unless you build a house with a **good foundation**, it is going to fail.

### "Hears" & "Does" ?

- Regular study of scripture
  - -Psalm 1:1-2
  - -James 1:19-25
  - -2 Tim 3:14-17
- Prayers offered to God in all situations
  - -Ephesians 6:18 -Phil 4:6-7
- Dedication to fellowship with other Christians
   -Acts 2:42-47
  - -Hebrews 10:24-25
- Consistent offering of praise and worship to God -Heb 12:28; 13:15
- Treating EVERYONE with love, patience, and kindness
  - -Matt 5:43-48
- Helping others / taking care of their needs
   -Matthew 25:31-46
- Avoiding the stain of the world and the works of the flesh
   -Galatians 5:19-21
  - -Galatians 5:19-21 -James 1:21, 27
- Sharing the gospel through words and actions
   -Matt 28:18-20

## The Sermon on the Mount ends with four warnings offered in pairs:

- (1) Two Gates/Two Ways (13-14)
- (2) Two Trees (15-20)
- (3) Two Claims (21-23)
- (4) Two Foundations (24-27)

#### All deal with:

- Kingdom of Heaven
- Righteousness
- A Choice
- Eternal Judgment



<sup>24</sup>"Everyone then who *hears these*words of mine and does them will be
like a wise man who built his house on
the rock. <- Luke 6:48 "dug deep"

<sup>25</sup>And the *rain* fell, and the *floods* came, and the *winds* blew and beat on that house, but **it did not fall**, because it had been founded on the **rock**.

<sup>26</sup>And everyone who *hears these* words of mine and does not do them will be like a *foolish man* who *built his house on the* sand.

<sup>27</sup>And the *rain* fell, and the *floods* came, and the *winds* blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

#### Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 7:24-29

#### 1. A Pointed Indictment

\*This warning builds upon the two claims that we looked at in Matthew 7:21-23 (Luke 6:46)

\*Jesus' emphasis in the previous warning was that obedience is required to be a true follower of God and not just lip service.

- \*Anyone who does not obey will be separated from God for all eternity.
- \*This dire consequence should elicit the attention of anyone who hears or reads these words from Jesus (Matthew 25:1-13)

#### 3. A Personal Interrogation

\*This illustration should cause us to perform a **self-evaluation**, much like the previous **warning** about the **two ways and gates** in **7:13-14**.

\*This should be aimed at determining which foundation our life is built upon?

And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching,
 for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes. <- John 1:1</li>

#### **Questions for Consideration:**

- (1) What is the "rock" foundation? (24-25; 1Co 3:10-15; Eph 2:19-22)
- (2) How do I build on the "rock" foundation? (24; James 1:19-25)
- (3) What is the "sand" foundation? Is it really a foundation? (26-27)
- (4) Why would I build without a foundation? Why would I hear and not obey? (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; Luke 6:48b; Matt 6:24; 7:26)
- (5) What will happen when the storms of life rise against my house? (Matt 6:19-21; 7:25, 27)

#### **EVERYONE** will select **SOMETHING** upon which to build their lives