

**Matthew 7:24-27:** Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <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.

**Intro:** In the verses we are studying today, we hear the final Words of the greatest, most well known sermon ever preached by the greatest preacher who has ever lived. Here Jesus emphasizes the necessity of not only hearing the Words of the greatest sermon ever preached, but doing the Words that He has preached – His Words!

What an amazing privilege & grace & mercy from God that we even get to hear the Words of Jesus! Think of the billions of people who have never even gotten the opportunity to hear any of the Words of the greatest Man Who's ever lived! People all over the world from the time of Jesus have not even been able to hear His Words. Still today, there are estimated to be over 7,000 people groups who have still not heard the Gospel (over 3 billion people).

But Jesus makes clear to us today that hearing is not everything. Many people hear His Words and still perish. Churches are filled with people who hear Jesus' Words every week, but they don't believe and obey Jesus' Words. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the conclusion Jesus warns us not to be deceived: 1) Don't be deceived by false prophets; 2) Don't be deceived by your own false profession of faith; 3) Don't be deceived by your own faulty hearing

**Jesus asks:** What will you build your life on? Christ/His Word = Rock; or self/world/sin/lies = sinking sand

### **1. Jesus Encourages Us Both To Hear And To Do His Words**

**Matthew 7:24:** Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

**a. We must hear the Words of Jesus:** How did you first hear the Words of Jesus? Parents; Friend; Reading the Bible; Radio; Movie; Book; Missionary; Church

**Romans 10:17:** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. **GOSPEL! (We will obey!)**

**b. Merely hearing the Words of Jesus is not enough:** Don't be deceived into thinking you are OK just because you've heard His words!

- **Matthew Henry:** It is not enough to hear Christ's sayings, and to understand them. It is not enough to hear them and remember them. It is not enough to hear them and talk about them. It is not enough to hear them and repeat them. To hear them and admire them, to hear them and dispute for them. We must hear them and do them.

**c. We must do the Words of Jesus: Ligon Duncan:** The Lord Jesus is talking about us embracing Him with the whole of our lives, with our hearts, with our minds, our souls, and with all our strength in action. And this is a continuously stressed point of Jesus' teaching: **Matthew 7:21:** Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who **does the will of my Father** who is in heaven.

- **Matthew 6:15:** but **if you do not forgive** others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

- **Matthew 12:50:** For whoever **does the will of my Father** in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.

- **Luke 11:28:** Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God **and keep it!**

- **John 14:15:** If you love me, **you will keep my commandments.**

- **Paul: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11:** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

- **James 1:27:** Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.
- **James 2:17:** So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- **John: 1 John 2:3:** And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

**d. Jesus compares hearing and doing His Words to a wise man who built his house on the rock:** What is the Rock? **1) Jesus is the Rock:**

- **1 Cor. 3:11:** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

- **1 Corinthians 10:4:** For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

**2) Jesus' Words are the Rock: Matthew 7:24:** Everyone then who hears these words of mine

**3) Building on the Rock means obedience to Jesus Christ and His Words: Matthew 7:24:** Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

**Wisdom! Pr. 9:10:** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, & the knowledge of the Holy One is insight

**e. Jesus is God: Psalm 62:1-2:** For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

**Matthew 7:24:** Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

## **2. If You Both Hear And Do The Words Of Jesus You Will Most Certainly Not Fall**

**Matthew 7:25:** 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.

If you build your house on Jesus and His words, you will never fall. If you build your life on Jesus and His words, you will stand forever! If you trust in Him and His Words and obey Him and His Words, you will never fall!

**a. Rains, floods, and winds are coming in life: John 16:33:** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Failures happen; Our own sin happens; Friends & family betray & hurt us; Health problems happen; Those close to us stop following Jesus; Marriages break up; Marriage never happens; Our children suffer; We never have children; Husbands & daughters die in car accidents; 5 children die in a house fire; The Taliban takes over your country; Wicked false doctrine attacks your faith; Tragedies & hardships happen; Your life doesn't turn out the way you hoped; Life is hard; The world, the flesh, & the Devil attack you! For unbelievers, God's wrath is coming!

**b. If you wisely build your life on Jesus and His Words – you trust and obey Him – you will never fall:** Jesus and His Word is our Rock that will never be shaken! A firm foundation! He never changes! He's the same yesterday, today, and forever! Heaven and earth will pass away but His Words will never pass away!

**Hymn:** My hope is built on nothing less; Than Jesus' blood and righteousness!

I dare not trust the sweetest frame; But wholly lean on Jesus' name!

On Christ the solid rock I stand; All other ground is sinking sand; All other ground is sinking sand!

**Hymn:** How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

**Lloyd-Jones:** Psalm 112:7 'He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord'. He is not afraid of pestilences, he is not afraid if wars should arise, he is not afraid of evil tidings. He does not say: 'What are we going to do tomorrow morning?' Not a bit—'his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord'. Again, take this

magnificent word in Isaiah 28:16, 'He that believeth shall not make haste' or, if you prefer it, 'He that believeth shall not be confounded', he that believeth shall not be 'taken unawares'. Why? Because he has been paying heed, he has been preparing, so that whatever comes to meet him he has a foundation . . . Our Lord Himself has taught it perfectly in the parable of the sower. He tells us that the false believer 'had no root in himself'. He endured for a while, but when persecution came he was finished, 'He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.' Read again the account of those first Christians who, when they were being persecuted, even being put to death, thanked God that He had counted them worthy to suffer for His name's sake. We have those great stories of the first martyrs and confessors, who though thrown to the lions in the arena, yet praised God. Far from complaining, Paul, as he writes to the Philippians from prison, gives thanks to God for his imprisonment, because it gives him an opportunity to preach the gospel. He could even endure the treachery of false friends. He was perfectly happy, and quite serene through it all, and could even look into the face of death and say that it was kind, because it meant going 'to be with Christ; which is far better'. He tells the Corinthians that 'our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory'. Read 2 Corinthians 4; read the list of his trials and tribulations; despite it all he can say that. And then listen to him, in his old age, facing death again, knowing it was coming; 'For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.' What a way to die! It has been the same throughout the centuries ever since the days when Paul wrote these words. Christian men have been repeating these experiences in their lives. Read the stories of the saints, read the stories of the martyrs and the confessors, read about those men who advanced to the stake smiling, preaching from the stake as the flames were encircling them.

### **3. Jesus Warns Us About Only Hearing His Words And Failing To Do Them As Well**

**Matthew 7:26:** 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.

**a. If you only hear Jesus' Words and do not do them, you are foolish: James 1:21-25:** Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

**b. If you only hear Jesus' Words and do not do them, you are building your life on sand:** Any other foundation than obedience to Jesus Christ and His Word is sand. It will not hold you up! You will not stand!

What kinds of foundations do people build their lives on? False religions; their own works; sports; games; entertainment; job/career; other people (spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend, children); money; stuff; power; glory; sex; pleasure; all manner of selfish desires; drugs; success; fame; **Hearing Jesus' Words, but not doing them!**

### **4. If You Only Hear And Do Not Do The Words Of Jesus You Will Most Certainly Fall**

**Matthew 7:27:** 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.

**a. The house built on sand will fall a great fall:** When the rains and floods and winds and storms of life come, these sandy foundations will not sustain you! When the judgment of God comes, these sandy foundations will not sustain you. The fall will be great; the fall will be hell.

**b. Building on sand is quick and easy; building on the rock takes time and is hard: Luke 6:47-49:** Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: <sup>48</sup> he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup> But the one who hears and does not do them is like a

man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.

**c. Jesus' last words of the greatest sermon ever preached: Verse 27:** and great was the fall of it.

Beware! Judas heard Jesus' sermons! Judas heard the greatest sermons of the greatest preacher Who ever lived! Judas had the greatest pastor and discipler Who ever lived! But he did not believe and do the Words of Jesus.

Beloved, are there ways in which you are not believing and doing the Words of Jesus?

**Beloved, look to Jesus!** Jesus Christ is the wisest man Who has ever lived! He is the only one Who has obeyed all of His own Words and all of God's Word perfectly! He faced the greatest rains and floods and winds and storms that anyone could ever face! And allowed Himself to take on all of our foolish sin, and He took the great fall for all our sin when He died on that cross! But He stood! He rose up from the dead, never to die again!

Christ Jesus Is The Rock Who Came  
Yesterday, Today, And Forever The Same  
His Words Make Wise And Hearts Inflamm  
To Do Them For His Praise And Fame  
He Bore God's Wrath And All Our Blame  
He Died And Rose To Take Our Shame  
For Ruined Sinners To Reclaim  
By Faith Alone We're His Exclaim  
Now Build That House On Rock's The Aim  
His Words We Do And Them Proclaim  
All By His Spirit For His Name!