

Matthew 7:24-29

I. Verses 28-29

A. Unlike the religious leaders of His day, Jesus didn't quote other "authorities" because He was the ultimate _____ (Matthew 5:21-22; 6:2; cf. Matthew 5:11-12; 7:22-23).

B. "Astonished"

1. John 7:46 – "No one ever spoke like this man!"
2. Who is this man, who speaks such _____?

C. He is the Son of God. Our _____ and _____.

D. So it is not enough to be _____...

II. Verses 24-27

A. The **rock** foundation = the _____ of Jesus.

B. The **house** under construction = the entirety of our _____.

C. **The wise man *builds* his house on the rock and the foolish man builds his house on the sand.**

1. The wise man who builds his house upon the rock is the one who hears Jesus' words and _____ them.
2. *Doing* Jesus' words helps us to see that obedience is not just about _____ acts.
3. We are to be _____ *doing* Jesus' words.
4. Jesus says: He is wise who seeks to have all of his thoughts, all of his actions, all of his words, and all of his motives built upon the foundation of my _____ – so that there is no part of his life that is not determined and informed by my _____.
5. We are wrong to think that there are areas of our life where we are *free* to live "_____."
6. According to Jesus, *anything* that is not built upon the rock is by *necessity* built upon the _____.

D. The storm

1. NOTE: To all outward appearances, it may seem that there is no difference between these two houses (cf. Matthew 7:15-23).
2. **And the rain fell.**
3. **And the floods came.**
4. **And the winds blew.**
5. And they all _____ **that house.**
6. The storm = The _____ of God on the day of _____.
 - a. 2 Peter 3:10 – But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.
 - b. Revelation 20:11-15 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.
 - c. Psalm 90:3-11 – You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" ... You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

Conclusion

- A. _____ of us is building a house with the life that we live.

- B. And for every single one of us, the day is coming when the rain and the floods and the wind will _____ the true nature of the life that we have lived.
- C. Malachi 3:1-2 – “The Lord... will suddenly come to his temple... behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and **who can stand** when he appears?
1. Only the person who has built his life upon the sure foundation of _____ will stand in the day of judgment.
 2. The final judgment will sweep away to everlasting _____ every life that was not built upon the words of Jesus (“And **great** was the fall of it”).
- D. If you want to build your life upon the foundation of Jesus’ words, then it all begins with being _____ in _____ and being one who _____ (Matthew 5:3-4).
1. The one who is poor in spirit is one who knows that in and of himself, he has _____ to bring to God (cf. Revelation 3:17).
 2. The one who mourns is the one who, after seeing and feeling his poverty of spirit, _____ of his sin and _____ in Jesus alone as his personal Savior and Lord.
- E. Those who are poor in spirit and those who mourn are then _____ by God’s _____ to build the *rest* of their life also upon the words of Jesus.

Concluding challenge and exhortation

John 6:66-68 – After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Teaching our Children

I did not have time this week to finish this section, but the parable that Jesus tells is wonderfully suited to the imaginations of children.

1. Start with the parable. Tell it as though it were a real life story.
2. Then draw the parallels to our own lives (remember to keep referring back to the parable).
 - a. Help your children to see that there is truly no other solid foundation for us to build our lives upon than the words of Jesus (See John 6:66-68 on bottom of previous page).
 - b. Help them to see that building their lives upon Jesus' words means not just hearing Jesus' words, but *doing* them (living them out in every part of our lives).
 - c. Help them to see the pressing urgency of building their lives upon Jesus' words in light of the coming storm of God's judgment (refer to the parable and see Scriptures under II. D. 6.).
 - d. Remind your children that doing the words of Jesus *begins* with being poor in spirit and one who mourns (Matthew 5:3-4; see Conclusion, D).
 - e. Encourage your children with the truth that those who are poor in spirit and those who mourn will be freed and empowered by God to build the rest of their life also upon the words of Jesus.

Malachi 3:1-2 – “The Lord... will suddenly come to his temple... behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and *who can stand* when he appears?”

Answer this question with your children.

(All those who have built their life upon the words of Jesus! No one else will be able to stand.)