

October 6, 2013

A Disciple and His Foundation

Matthew 7:24-29

The evidence of true salvation is always based upon one's foundation of Jesus Christ and His Word. This part of Jesus' sermon is about "how" a person builds His spiritual house.

I. The Similarities of These Two Builders

A. They each heard the gospel

Matthew 7:24a *Everyone who hears these words of mine...*

B. They each built their house in the same general location

Matthew 7:25 *And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house...*

C. They each built a similar house

Matthew 7:24 *The wise man and the foolish man both built their house...*

II. The Differences in These Two Builders

Matthew 7:24 *The wise man...built his house upon the rock, whereas the foolish man...built his house upon the sand.*

The greatest need in the 21st Century church isn't to say "amen" with our lips, but to say "amen" with our feet.

Arthur Pink on Religious People:

"They bring their bodies to the house of prayer but not their souls; they worship with their mouths, but not in spirit and in truth. Multitudes of professing Christians abstain from external acts of violence; yet hesitate not to rob their neighbors of a good name by spreading evil reports against them. They contribute regularly to the 'pastor's salary,' but shrink not from misrepresenting their goods and cheating their customers, persuading themselves that 'business is business'. They have more regard for the laws of man than those of God, for His fear is not before their eyes."

When you walk out of this worship service today, the question on the floor is this: "What will I do with what I just heard?"

Southern Baptist Press
June 5, 2013:

"Reported baptisms have declined six of the last eight years, with 2012 the lowest since 1948. The ratio of baptisms to total members is 1 baptism for every 50 members."

III. The Response of These Two Builders

Matthew 7:28-29 *The result was that when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were amazed at His teaching. For He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.*

- We can obey God for a number of reasons:
 1. Because we have to
 2. Because we need to
 3. Because we want to
- A true disciple isn't someone who simply hears and believes, but someone who believes and acts upon what he has heard.
- The true test of discipleship is how you endure the wind and rain of life's obstacles.
- It would be better not to hear the truth, than to hear the truth and not do anything with it.