**THE TWO FOUNDATIONS**

**THE PARABLES OF JESUS #3**

Our study today takes us into the “Parable of the Two Foundations” or “the Wise and Foolish Builders”. This parable is in 2 books, Luke and the account that we will be studying today in Matthew. This parable is again foundational in nature – **Matt. 7:24-27 -.** We begin with:

1. **Wisdom and foolishness falls on what a man does with the teaching of Jesus – vs. 24, 26 -.** In both cases, the sayings of Jesus are heard. The difference is found in what is done with what is heard. If a person “doeth” or obeys and applies the Word of God, that is a sign of wisdom; if one doesn’t obey and apply, that is foolishness. Our world, families, individuals and churches would be in the best place possible if they simply followed what Jesus is teaching.
2. **The wise builder – vs. 24 -.** Here Jesus begins His teaching on the necessity of His words being the foundation of life by likening the one who does follow His words as a “wise builder”. This “wise man” is found building his house upon a rock. The rock would serve as the foundation of the house. In a spiritual sense, the rock spoken here are the words of Jesus or the Bible. If a person makes the Bible the foundation of their lives by believing, obeying and applying its truths, that person is likened to a wise person. As we will see, the direction of a wise life will be tested by life itself.
3. **The storms of life test the foundation – vs. 25 -.** Jesus tells us that the life that is founded upon His words as the foundation of life will be tested by the storms of life – rain, floods and wind. All three speak of varying degrees of difficulty. Heavy rains can cause water damage, rains that lead to floods can wash away any belongings and winds can damage and even destroy many things. Despite the assault by life’s storms, Jesus tells us “and it fell not”. The reason – “for it was founded (or built) upon a rock”. The Christian that has for his life the foundation of God’s Word will be able to sustain through life’s storms.
4. **The foolish builder – vs. 26 -.** In this verse, we see the opposite. Here Jesus likens a person who does not follow His words to a foolish man or a foolish builder. This time, the builder builds his house one the sand. A house built on sand has no real foundation. The house may stand in good weather but it will never endure the harsh weather.

Most people today are in this category. Most people do not believe in the Bible, follow the Bible or apply the Bible. As a result, their lives are in their hands. A life that is lived without God and without the foundation of His Word is like building a house on the sand; it has no foundation. Any decisions in this kind of a life have no foundation under it. A life that does follow God’s Word will be a life where wrong decisions are the norm. Marriages without God’s Word will many times fail to last and fail to be enjoyable if they do last. Raising children without the Bible will result is children being raised wrong. Any life that is lived without God’s as its center will never be a full life and will ultimately end up as a failed life.

1. **The storms of life destroy the foolish life – vs. 27 -.** Notice that the same storms that believers face also visit the unsaved. This tells us that being saved doesn’t make us immune to life’s storms. It rains on the just and the unjust. In this example, we see the foolish life that rejects God’s Word as its foundation falls in the face of life’s storms. Certainly unsaved people can overcome life’s difficulties but they do it on their own and eventually succumb to some kind of storm in their life. Many unsaved people will either lean on pride for getting through storms or get angry at God for allowing them at all. Whichever occurs, it is a falling on that life.
2. **The fall is great – vs. 27 – “and great was the fall of it”.** A disregard for God’s Word will lead to a life that ultimately fails and falls. But an even greater fall awaits the sinner who rejects God – an eternity in hell. There can be no greater fall. It is also a fall that can be avoided. God’s Word is the determining factor. A person who trusts God’s Word enough for salvation will never fall into the flames of hell. That same believer who follows God’s Word as guide for life will never fall in this life. The same does not apply to the unbeliever. A ruined life and an eternal hell await everyone who disregards this parable.