

## ***Built on the Perfect Foundation***

***“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man built his house on sand. The rain came down, the stream rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” (Matthew 7:24-29)***

The above Scripture was the conclusion of the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ that He gave to the crowd in a famous sermon called the Sermon on the Mountain. Jesus in His teachings, He guides us in the way that we ought to live in order to have a peaceful life according to what God had planned and had bestowed for us. Jesus described that:

1. ***There are two types of people:*** *First, the wise builders-* those who come to Jesus and listen to what He spoke to them, and they put into practice what they hear. *Second, the foolish builders* – those who heard what Jesus was saying to them but they did not put it into practice. The Lord said in His word, ***“I will instruct you and teach you in the way of you should go, I will counsel you and watch over you.” (Psalm 32:8)*** For God to teach you is to give you the full plan of your life that He has already made for you – the plan prosper you with an assured future. For God to instruct you is to tell you the fine details to certain step of your life. You may have the full plan of God in your life, but you need certain details how to do certain tasks and to pass certain occasion. The Lord will counsel you; you can ask Him and He will answer you. The Lord is watching over you. The wise builder is the one who allows Jesus to teach Him. To be teachable is to accept correction, guidance and instruction from God so that the life you live will be fruitful, graceful and successful.
2. ***There are two kinds of foundation:*** A rock is a strong foundation and sand is a weak foundation. As we know, for any house or building it has to be built on a foundation so it will stand. The bigger the building is the wider, the deeper and the more rigid foundation it has to have so that it can hold the heavy weight as well as it can stand the natural threat like rains, floods, storms , earthquakes, etc.

The Lord Jesus was speaking to every one of us. When we build our own houses we should build on a strong foundation and, as well we should build our own lives on a real foundation so we that would not be affected by the threats and pressures of this world. We must be wise builders. The foundation that we should choose to live on must be the word of God or the principles written in the Bible. Jesus is the living word of God. He is God. He came down from heaven to show us the right way of living. His word is the perfect foundation that we ought to build our life on. Jesus came from heaven to save us from death. He lived on earth without sin yet He took our sins, died for us on the cross and rose from the dead to give us eternal life.

Jesus spoke to the crowd about lot of things but what was the value if the crowd heard what He said but they did not do or put into practice? So Jesus said, ***“Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not no what I say?”*** We must go through the Bible, read the word of God and see how much of what we read we are doing and how much is not yet applied or put into practice. The worse is that if we are not reading our Bible and we don’t know what Jesus has been telling us! How could we have a good foundation to build our life? Let us consider carefully His words. Jesus Christ is coming back as soon as He said: ***“Behold, I am coming soon, my reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” (Revelation 22:12)*** If we are only building on the sand or our lifestyle is based just on our own logics, principles and philosophies, we must wake up; all these will be thrown away. The only life that will remain are those built according to the word of God and the teachings of our Lord Jesus that written in the Bible.

3. ***The expert builder:*** ***“By the grace God has given me, I laid foundation as an expert builder and someone else’s is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stone, wood, hay or straw his work will be shown for what it is because the day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his rewards. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.” (Corinthians 3:10-15)*** Jesus is telling us clearly that we will face in life difficulties, trials and hardships of different kinds like rain, earthquake torrents and floods. If our building is without a strong foundation, or our lifestyle is not based on the word of God we will collapse or be destroyed. If we have built our lives by using cheap principles of lies, greed, favoritism, favor from men, we are like a building made only of wood, hay or straw and with a shallow foundation. Cheap materials will support the building temporarily and for simple purpose but useless for a long-term and bigger purpose. God allows fire to consume a building – that means trials and hardships to burn and remove away the cheap principles in our lives. God wants us to get rid of lies, flattery talks, biases, favoritism, greed, or injustices. God would cleanse us from all the cheap things because He wants our lives to build on a strong and perfect foundation that will last forever. We must be expert builders. Let us build our lifestyles on the foundation that is already laid – God’s living word. Jesus Christ is coming soon to reward everyone according to what he has done.

**My dear and beloved:** How long do you listen to the word of the Lord Jesus but do not do what He says? Can you make this day a special day for yourself? Can you commit yourself in the hand of the Lord to do what He says to you as you agree to pray?

**My prayer:** *“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus. Forgive me all my sins. Lord, from today I commit myself to listen to your word and to put what I hear into practice. Teach me, Lord, your ways and instruct me. I want to build my life on your foundation – your living word. Lord Jesus, You are the Christ, the Son of God for all ages now and forever more. Amen.”*