

THE TWO BUILDERS

Text: Matthew 7:24-27

INTRO: In the sermon on the mount, Jesus laid the ground-work for the kingdom of God upon the earth. He concludes that sermon with the words of our text. Let us note:

- I. ALL WHO HEAR THE GOSPEL ARE BUILDERS.
 - A. Some builders are wise. They hear & obey the gospel.
 - B. Some are foolish. They hear but do not heed.
Matt. 7:21; James 1:22-25.

- II. ALL BUILDERS HAVE THE CHOICE OF 2 FOUNDATIONS.
 - A. No one is forced to build on a certain foundation.
Deut 11:26-28, Behold, I set before you today a blessing & a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; & the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.

Josh 24:15, And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

 - B. We may build on the Rock, a firm foundation.
John 13:17, If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

 - C. Or we may choose the "easy way"—do what we want with little or no regard for the consequences.

Luke 6:46-49, "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' & do not do the things which I say? Whoever comes to Me, & hears My sayings & does them, I will show you

whom he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great." Cp King Saul, 1 Sam. 15.

III. OUR BUILDING WILL BE TESTED. Floods will come. Winds will blow. NOTE: In this parable Jesus is emphasizing the final test. But there will probably be various lesser tests to come before the final test. And no test is pleasant. Noah. When the "house" of the foolish builder faced the ultimate test, GREAT was its fall.

A. Because of its suddenness. As soon as it was fully tested.

B. Because of the completeness of the test & the fall.

C. Because of the finality. No 2nd chance. No rebuilding.

CONCLUSION: All will eventually be tested by the words of Jesus, JN 12:48; Gal. 1:11-12.

Heb 12:25, See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven.

NOTE: 2 attitudes, 2 lifestyles, 2 destinies.

Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, August 2, 1964

Cox Springs, TX, April 3, 1966

Butler St., Springhill, LA, November 3, 1974

La Porte, TX, November 8, 1981

Vale, Valparaiso, IN, July 2000 (meeting)

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, October 22, 2000

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, July 3, 2005

