

THE TWO BUILDERS

Matt. 7:24-27

INTRO: As one studies the Sermon on the Mount, he will find the greatest sermon ever to fall on human ears. In the fifth, sixth, and seventh chapters of Matthew, we find this great sermon. Jesus brings this great sermon to a close with the Parable of the Two Builders. Having just given the great lessons in this sermon, Jesus then shows the importance of obedience to what he has taught. The man who hears the words of Jesus and obeys is like a wise man; the one who hears and will not obey is like a foolish man. In this parable, we want to notice four outstanding truths.

- 1. All men are builders.
- 2. We have a choice of building on one of two foundations.
- 3. All buildings are tested.
- 4. Only one will stand.

Now we want to consider each of these four truths in order.

I. ALL MEN ARE BUILDERS.

Everyone who hears the sayings of Jesus is a builder. He is either wise or foolish. He obeys or will not obey.

- A. Wise Builders.
 - 1. Attentive. Matt. 7:24. "Heareth"
 - 2. Hears right doctrine. "Words of mine"
 - 3. Does as commanded. "Doeth them"
- B. Foolish Builders.
 - 1. Attentive. Matt 7:26. "Heareth"
 - 2. Hears right Doctrine. "Words of mine"
 - 3. Does not do as commanded. "Doeth them not" Matt. 7:21; James 1:22.

II. FOUNDATION.

The wise man hears and does. He is like a man that builds on the rock.

- A. Firm, durable foundation. Luke 6:47-48.
- B. The rock is Christ—His teachings. Isa. 28:16; Eph. 2:19-20; 1 Cor. 3:11. The foolish man hears, but obeys not. He is like a man who builds on sand. It is a movable, unstable, and treacherous foundation.

III. TEST. 1 Cor. 3:13.

As each child of God's work will be tested, so also those who hear the words of Jesus.

- A. The buildings are tested from every direction: Rain—roof, Flood—foundation, Wind—walls. So also our trials come from every direction. Note: Job 1:11; 2 Cor. 12:7; Rev. 3:10.
- B. The tests are impartial. Both houses are subject to the same test. It reminds us that the storms of trial and temptation strike both our

fellow man and us. Both are endowed with passions; both live in an evil world; both are subject to trials and temptations.

IV. RESULTS.

- A. House of the wise man fell not. It was founded on the rock. The wise man heard and did. Luke 11:28; John 13:17; 1 John 2:16-17; 1 Pet. 2:6.
- B. House of the foolish man fell. "Great was the fall thereof." It was a great fall because of its:
 - 1. Suddenness. Not a slow decline, but a sudden crash.
 - 2. Completeness. Not partial, but a complete fall.
 - 3. Finality. House never rebuilt; the word was refused.

CONCL: You have heard the Word of the Lord. What kind of a builder will you be? Anyone can be foolish. Anyone can build on sand. Anyone can refuse to obey. It takes a wise man to build so as to stand. Why not be wise and obey today?