



SERMON HANDOUT for June 9, 2024

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*It is not the beauty of a building you should look at;
it's the construction of the foundation
that will stand the test of time.*

~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

JESUS IS OUR FIRM FOUNDATION

Matthew 7:24-27 NKJV

Elder Alton R. Green

INTRODUCTION

Sermon on the Mount concluding illustration:

Difference between merely hearing Jesus' teaching and fully living by it.

Parable about two men:

One who built his house on a rock – Other who built his house on sand.

Both houses hit by same storm:

House on the rock will stand – House on the sand falls hard.

Those who hear and apply His words are like a wise man who built a house on a rock.

Those who do not are like a foolish man who built a house on sand.

The foundations of life, faith, and belief will be tested by Life Challenges.

Only those with faith grounded in something tried and true—
which is Christ alone will endure those storms intact.

† Acts 4:12 NKJV

† Matthew 7:24–27 NKJV

- Jesus calls for his audience to decide between himself and the religious establishment.
- Jesus draws a dividing line between himself and any other foundation for life.
- Jesus is relating a physical foundation to teach a spiritual truth!

1) A _____ FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION (Britannica.com)

Part of a structural system that supports and anchors the superstructure of a house and or a building and transmits its loads directly to the earth.

Solid Foundation - able to support the weight of the building itself, along with any additional stressors like people, furnishings, and more. It provides a solid anchor for the building, keeping it stable and secure.

Good Foundation - helps to prevent your home from shifting or settling into the ground beneath.

Strong Foundation - is Essential!

Foundation Failure - LEANING TOWER OF PISA

Construction began in 1173 AD.

Foundation laid in soft soil composed of clay, sand, and shells.

The tower began to lean almost immediately.

Only worsened as construction continued.

Although it has somewhat stabilized, the Leaning Tower of Pisa remains a testament to the enduring challenges of building on unstable ground!

2) A _____ FOUNDATION

In the Bible, “solid rock” is a metaphor for the unwavering strength and reliability of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ serves as the foundation of a Christian's faith.

Matthew 7:24 NKJV - The spiritual meaning of the parable...

We are each building a life.

The proper foundation for a life is Jesus’ words

—not just the hearing of them, but the doing them.

When we build on a firm foundation of Christ, we can withstand whatever comes our way:

- Weight of the World.
- Stress of Everyday Life and Challenges.
- Persecution and Lies authored by Satan himself.

The teachings of Christ (Word of God) are the solid foundation upon which we are to build our lives.

† Deuteronomy 32:3-4 NKJV

No house will stand for long unless it has a strong foundation.

It’s the same with our lives.

We need a strong foundation from which to stand on! ~Tony Evans

3) THE _____ BUILD THEIR HOUSE ON THE ROCK - Matthew 7:24 NKJV

• **HEAR and DO**

† James 1:22 NKJV

† James 1:25 NKJV

• **OBEY**

† John 14:15 NKJV

† John 14:31 NKJV

• **BE WISE**

† Psalm 111:10 NKJV

† Psalm 9:10 NKJV

THE WISE UNDERSTAND THAT STORMS WILL COME - Matthew 7:25 NKJV

† 1 Corinthians 15:58 NKJV

† Ephesians 4:14 NKJV

The Victory is Ours

† 1 Corinthians 10:13 NKJV

† Ephesians 6:11 NKJV

† Ephesians 6:14-17 NKJV

† Romans 8:37 NKJV

4) THE _____ BUILD THEIR HOUSE ON THE SAND - Matthew 7:26 NKJV

• **Fools do not obey God** - James 1:23-24 NKJV

• **Fools do not fear God** - Proverbs 1:7 NKJV

• **Fools trust in their own understanding** - Proverbs 28:26 NKJV

• **Fools think highly of themselves** - 2 Timothy 3:5 NKJV

THE FOOLISH DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT STORMS WILL COME - Matthew 7:27 NKJV

† Proverbs 10:17 NKJV

† Proverbs 18:2 NKJV

† Psalm 92:6 NKJV

There are Consequences! - John 3:36 NKJV

5) JESUS IS THE _____ - 1 Corinthians 3:11 NKJV

Because...

† **JESUS is our HOPE** – 1 Timothy 1:1 NKJV

† **JESUS is our BLESSED HOPE** – Titus 2:13-14 NKJV

† **JESUS is our ETERNAL HOPE** – John 17:3 NKJV

† **JESUS is our ROCK OF SALVATION** – Psalm 18:2 NKJV

† **JESUS is our ASSURANCE** – Romans 10:13 NKJV

CONCLUSION

Make it personal... Jesus is YOUR Firm Foundation

Any other foundation will fail, but Christ is a sure and steady rock to build your life on.

~Billy Graham

Matthew 16:18 NKJV

JESUS IS OUR FIRM FOUNDATION!