



SERIES: Walking with Jesus

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Thursday, December 14, 2023

Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29, James 1:22

TITLE: Your Sure Foundation

How can we, as Christians, remain grounded in the midst of the whirlwind called life? Let's take a look at how Jesus Christ answers this question as he wraps up his glorious sermon on the mount.

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.’ And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.”

(Matthew 7:24-29, ESV)

On this side of eternity, the whirlwind and the storms of life are constant. This is because of the curse of sin upon our world. We no longer live in a garden paradise, we have thorns and thistles and weeds to deal with. And we have storms!

As a father of young children, I still can't sleep through a thunderstorm. It's not that I am afraid of thunderstorms, but I've been socially conditioned by my kids to wake up. Little children are often terrified of storms so they run into mom and dad's bedroom. They fear the storm, but find comfort in the arms of their parents. I've had to do this with each of my kids and though my kids have learned to rest during the thunderstorm, I haven't been able to get any sleep.

Jesus does not want us to be afraid of the storm and neither does He want us to be ignorant of the fact that storms will come. But rather, Jesus wants us to have a strong foundation that can withstand all the storms of life.

What is this foundation? It's what He said in the passage we read. It's His word!

It matters to Jesus Christ how we hear and respond to His word. It matters in life, how we hear and respond to God's Word. And there's only two ways to respond to God's word.

1. To hear with faith that leads to obedience and wise living. Wise living, not safe living or stress-free living or problem-free living or storm-free living, but wise living.
2. To hear and not act on the word which results in foolish living.

James 1:22 says, “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

From our passage today, remember these three things:

1. Expect storms. They will come. We all must endure them.
2. It matters to God how you hear and respond to his Word.
3. Faith and obedience to Christ is the only sure foundation for life. Amen.