

# A House On A Rock

## Matthew 7:15-29

Welcome back and here we go! Today we talk about lives as though they were houses! Picking up where we left off last week....

### Matthew 7:15-29

1) What stands out to you?

There are three basic blocks of scripture here that lead up to one lesson, which is: "Be careful how you build your Spiritual life."

- a) False Teachers V 15-20
- b) True Salvation V 21-23
- c) Spiritual Strength for today V 24-27

The first two are eternal. The last is for here on earth.

**Matthew 7:15-20** *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*

2) Verses 17-20 talk about a person's spiritual fruit. How can you tell the difference?

It is not always easy, as even our leaders, are human and make mistakes. We are all supposed to judge the fruit of one another but not judge the tree. Cut it out at the root! The best we can do is judge our own fruit.

**Matthew 7:21-23** *<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"*

Here we read of people claiming to have good fruit and yet Jesus says, *I don't know you*. So it is not just works that have outward positive (good) fruit, but truly it is an inner conversion based on biblical truth.

3) Why are so many deceived?

## ***1 Corinthians 3:5-17***

4) What is your foundation?

You know our lives are a continual journey, but your life with Christ began somewhere. You made the choice. You raised your hand and then the journey began. Jesus says when that journey begins, you start to build.

***Matthew 7:24-27*** <sup>24</sup> ***“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: <sup>25</sup> and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: <sup>27</sup> and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”***

5) What is being described here spiritually?

Obviously, the two parables prior, describe someone who did not build well. First, they listened to false teachers, who may have outstanding looking fruit - the “moral sinner”. Second, are the misguided, the uniformed, the person who does not know the Word. That is NOT us.

6) What storms are you facing now? (personal question)

All of us have storms that arise. Do you feel like your storm is destroying you? A Christian is never hopeless. As we build on our foundation, we can prepare for the things to come. You notice it says “when” the storms come. They will come. So it is up to us to prepare. As supernatural beings, we know our future is other worldly.

7) Can people build pretty homes without Jesus?

That’s why we see Christians fall apart in times of trouble. The house they built on top of the foundation is a structure built on their own materials: money, power, prestige, trust in personal looks, skills, talents.

When the storms come, we don’t call on these things, we call on the mighty name of Jesus. The key is: do not wait for the storm.

## ***Ephesians 2:19-22***

Pray God strengthens you for the trials ahead!

Let’s pray God reveals the scriptures / building materials that we each will need and may need even now!

Blessings.