

THE TWO FOUNDATIONS

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: Matthew 7:24-27. From Roy H. Enoch (02-12-1995).
- B. Every building or institution must rest on a foundation.
 - 1. Jesus' illustration is familiar and logical.
 - a. He lived in a land of mountains and hills, with deep valleys and seasonal streams.
 - b. The hills and mountains were often bare rock and sometimes loose rock.
 - c. They were familiar w/the security of building on solid bedrock on a hill.
 - d. They also knew that sand would only be found in the beds of streams where it had washed down by the rains.
 - e. In the summer season, a dry creek bed seems to be a level place suitable for a house.
 - 2. The foundations would not be tested until the rains and storms came.
 - a. In the heavy rains, the house on a hill on bedrock would be secure.
 - b. The house in a valley sandbar is in great danger, and so is a life that does not obey X.
 - 3. Recently we studied the church and its foundation.
 - a. We noticed how it would be impossible to build it upon Peter.
 - b. But Paul clearly tells us that it can only be built on X (1Cor. 3:11).
 - c. Paul was a wise master builder because he built on X (1Cor. 3:10).
- C. Our lives are built on the foundation of the principles by which we live.
 - 1. The security of our lives depends on the strength of the principles that we live by.
 - 2. It would seem that there are many foundations to choose from.
- D. Jesus says that there are really only two foundations.
 - 1. Building on the rock is doing His will.
 - 2. Building on the sand is not doing His will.

I. BUILDING ON THE ROCK IS DOING WHAT HE SAYS.

- A. Those build on the rock who hear and do what He says (Mt. 7:24).
 - 1. The word for "does them" is translated by 28 different terms in the KJV.
 - 2. Vine's defines it as "to do, to make, to abide, or to stay in a place, to continue."
 - 3. Jesus is referring to one who CONTINUES TO DO what He says.
- B. Many hear and do SOME of what He says.
 - 1. They do what pleases them rather than what pleases the Lord.
 - a. James tells us that selfish prayers are not answered (Jas. 4:3).
 - b. When we are self-pleasing, we do not seek God's way (Jas. 3:13-14).
- C. Building on the rock is to follow the Lord's teachings and to desire to please Him.
 - 1. We will believe that the Scriptures are inspired of God (2Tim. 3:16-17).
 - 2. If we build on the rock, we will trust the gospel's saving power. Romans 1:16
 - 3. If we build on the rock we will accept that salvation is conditional. Heb. 11:6; 5:8,9.
 - 4. If we build on the rock, we will accept that we cannot join His church: He adds us to it (Ac. 2:47; Col. 1:13).
 - 5. We must realize that salvation is in X; in His church.
 - a. We cannot be saved out of His church.
 - b. When we are baptized, we are baptized into X and put Him on (Gal. 3:27).
 - c. Salvation is being in X (a part of His body) and being clothed with X.
 - 6. If we are the bride of X, we will obey Him and wear His name (2Cor. 11:2).
A loving bride wants to please her husband and is honored to wear His name.
 - 7. If we build on the rock, we will live a godly life (Ti. 2:11-12).
 - 8. If we build on the rock, we will want to worship Him.
 - a. The beginning of worship is to revere and desire to please.

- b. We will want to study His word that we can please Him.
 - c. As a boy who loves his girl will want to be with her and to try to please her, we will want to worship God regularly and do what pleases Him (Gal. 1:10).
- C. To build on solid rock, we must clear away the debris of self-will and focus on the truth.
 - 1. Sometimes there is brush and briars that must be rooted out. Mt. 13:22
 - 2. There may be loose dirt or rock that must be cleared away to get to the solid foundation of bedrock.
 - 3. If our lives are not cleared of the love/practice of sin, we can not do the Lord's will.

II. **BUILDING OUR LIVES ON THE SAND, IS TO LIVE AS WE PLEASE.**

- A. Jesus does not identify building on the sand as not believing Him.
 - 1. Some seem to think that if they believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that is all that is needed for salvation.
 - 2. But Jesus makes acceptance depend on DOING what He says (Mt. 7:21).
 - 3. Building on the sand is not doing (Mt. 7:26).
 - 4. It is natural for man to want to do as he pleases.
 - 5. It is godly for a man to want to do as God pleases.
- B. The teachings of men reflect the great variety of "houses" or lives that can be built on the sand.
 - 1. To be "self-centered" is to build on the sand.
 - 2. To be too lazy to work is building on the sand.
 - 3. To follow false teachers or traditions of men is building on sand (Mt. 15:13-14).
 - 4. Those who follow the false teachers will have the same fate as their teacher or leader.
 - 5. Living for pleasure and self-gratification is a life on sand (1Th. 4:3-7).
 - 6. Those who try to please men build their lives on sand.
 - a. Paul pleased the Jews when he was persecuting Xians (Gal. 1:13-14).
 - b. Yet, to serve X, he had to give up what was profitable in pleasing men (Phil. 3:7-8).

CONCLUSION.

- A. We need to continually study God's word w/ the desire to please God rather than to try to justify what we want to do.
- B. We must listen like the Bereans (Ac. 17:11).
- C. We must love God's word enough to want to be in classes where it is taught and discussed.
- D. We have to love X enough to want to praise Him in song, and glorify his name for the love He has shown us.
- E. If you do not have this attitude, you need to repent--turn by renewing your mind to change your way of living.