

## BUILDING A HOUSE THAT LASTS

One of the favorite bedtime stories at our house is The Three Little Pigs. As most of us know, it is the story of three pigs who build houses and a big bad wolf comes and tries to blow the houses down. The first two pigs build very quickly with their straw and sticks, but the third is very careful in his construction with bricks. When the wolf comes, the first two houses go down easily, but the third is able to remain.

I think of 1 Corinthians 3 where Paul says, *“Each man must be careful how he builds on it (the foundation which is Jesus)... Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work.*

How are we building our spiritual houses? Are we quick to build them, or do we take our time? The first two pigs get their houses up very quickly and the houses were not strong enough to withstand the trial. Too often we practice microwave theology. We get a quick answer to a question or problem where there is not a quick answer. Too often we assume change will happen immediately. It can take time. It took the people of Israel hundreds of years to get rid of idolatry, why do we think it will happen in thirty seconds? When we wind comes, we find our houses were not built very well.

What kind of materials are we using? The first two pigs used cheap materials. How often do we build our spiritual houses with cheap material? We seek the material of the world that doesn’t last. It may look nice on the outside, but it is cheap. We have an as seen on TV kind of spiritual walk with God. It is only three easy payments of \$19.99.

God never promised easy. In fact, many left from following Jesus because His message was too hard. Taking up our cross daily is not an easy thing. Doing the work of God is what will last, however.

How do you spend your time? Do you build with cheap, easy materials, or do you build with materials that will last. What kind of work are you doing? Are you working for the Lord are you working for men?

The day will come where Satan will huff and puff and try to blow your house in. What is your house made of?

--Alex Swango