

Sermon 36: Diligently Building on a Solid Foundation: Luke 6:43-49

Text: Luke 6:43-49 “For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh. And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great...”

Summary: The following section of Christ sermon in the plain teaches us that our lives must be diligently built upon Christ’s solid foundation or the result will be devastating ruin.

Proposition: Christ wants us to escape devastating ruin by diligently building our lives upon Him.

Introduction:

- **What we believe matters:**
 - **Building our lives on a lie is disastrous.**
 - **Diligently building our lives on the truth provides several invaluable benefits:**
 - **Fruitfulness: 6:43-44** “A good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For

of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes...”

- **Transformation: 6:45** “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh...”
- **Stability: 6:46-47** “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like...”
- **Faith is deeper than mental acknowledgment of the truth:**
There is danger in being complacent with the truth.
 - We have a natural disposition that is both blind and opposed to God.
 - We must be confronted in our spiritual blindness and rebellion with the truth so that our thinking is changed by it.
 - If our thinking has truly been changed, then we will be motivated to turn to Christ.
 - We will be willing to rest in who He is, what He has done for us.
 - We will feel compelled to act upon what His word calls us to do: **Philippians 2:13** “God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure...”

Part 1: Introducing the parable:

- **DIY projects:** To save a little time or to save a little money, sometimes we cut corners or skip steps. It may not initially seem to matter very much, but time and the right set of circumstances will eventually reveal that we have cut corners.
- Attempting to save time and money, we end up losing far more time and money than we originally saved.

- **The parable is simple:**
 - **Two people built their homes:** One built wisely, the other did not.
 - **Two homes were tested:** One stood, the other collapsed.
 - **The quality of two investments of time, energy, and material resources were revealed:** one was successful in the end the other was wasted.

Part 2: The parable's general application:

- **Life is full of opportunities:** “Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings...”
- **We are responsible to act on what we are given:** “And doeth them...is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock ...”
 - If you genuinely believe that something is true, you won't be lazy with it.
 - You won't be neutral toward it.
 - Faith leads to a diligent, motivated response: **James 1:22** “Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves...”
- **What we do with the truth will be tested:** “The flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house...”
 - If we have been apathetic or lazy with the truth it will eventually be seen.
 - If we have built our lives upon a lie it will eventually be seen.
 - **Genuine disciples: John 6:64-69** “There are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him...From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast

the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God...”

- **Suffering Christians: 1 Peter 1:3-8** “According to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory..”
- **False teachers: 1 John 2:18-20** “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things...”
- **The difficulties of life will reveal the true quality of what we have embraced:** “And could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock... But...immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great...”
- **There is only one sure foundation:** Christ is that foundation.
- **Everything about our lives must be built upon Him.**

- **If we build our lives on a substitute or we are lazy with the way we build on Christ, there will be natural, sure consequences.**

Part 3: Specific New Testament applications:

- **Paul's ministry: 1 Corinthians 3:6-15** "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase...we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it ..."
- **The Corinthians were highly critical of Paul's ministry.**
- **He had a firmly established approach to ministry:**
 - It was all about Christ not Paul.
 - He faithfully preached Christ because he believed only the gospel has the power to change people.
 - He faithfully endured untold hardships because of what he believed.
 - He didn't let his critics undermine what he was doing.
- **The true value of Paul's approach to ministry would be revealed:**
 - **Time would reveal the true nature of Paul's ministry: 2 Corinthians 3:1-2** Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men..."
 - **The judgment seat of Christ: 1 Corinthians 3:15** "If any man build upon this foundation gold, silver,

precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it ...”

- **Our lives: 1 Corinthians 15:57-58** “Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord...”
- **Our families: Psalm 127:1** “Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain...”

Questions to consider:

- What are we doing with our access to the truth?
- Are we embracing it?
- Are we actively building our lives and homes upon this sure foundation?
- May God awaken us out of our complacency and stir up our wearied souls!
- One day the true character of what we have built will be revealed.
- May we diligently build our lives upon the truth!