

# **Building Houses and a Baker's Dozen    Matthew 7:24-27**

December 31, 2023    Kerry Francetich

Introduction-

## A. The Importance of Last Words

- At the end of life
- Saying goodbye
- At the end of a year or season
- At the end of a speech or sermon

## B. The Last Words of the Sermon on the Mount    Matt. 7:24-27

1. The similarity between the two builders
  
2. The difference between the two builders
  
3. Jesus' main point of the illustration
  - It is not that the wise builder built upon the rock and the foolish builder built upon the sand, but that the wise man acted and did the words that he heard while the foolish man did not act on Jesus' words.

## C. The Baker's Dozen of Imperatives in the Sermon on the Mount

1. Rejoice    Matt. 5:12    (rejoice when persecuted for doing right)
2. Let your light shine    Matt. 5:16    (reflect Jesus so that others see him)
3. Leave, be reconciled, come to terms    Matt. 5:23-25    (get right with your brother)
4. Tear out, throw away, cut off, throw away    Matt. 5:29-30    (amputate paths to sin)
5. Let what you say    Matt. 5:37    (keep your word)
6. Turn, let have, go, give, pray    Matt. 5:39-44    (love your enemies through giving)
7. Beware, do not let, go into, pray, do not look gloomy, anoint, wash    Matt. 6:1,3,6,16, 17  
(beware of religiosity and hypocrisy)
8. Do not lay up, lay up    Matt. 6:19-20    (save the right treasure)
9. Look, consider    Matt. 6:26-28    (overcome worry by looking at the birds and flowers)
10. Behold, take log out    Matt. 7:3-5    (take your log out before helping another)
11. Knock    Matt. 7:7    (be persistent in going to the Lord in prayer)
12. Enter    Matt. 7:13    (find true life by entering through the narrow gate)
13. Beware    Matt. 7:15    (beware of false teachers)

Conclusion:

- Are you a doer of the words of Jesus that you have heard (a wise person), or just a hearer (a foolish person)? James 1:22 – 25    What will you be in 2024?

Questions for consideration:

1. You heard what some people said at the end of their lives. Turn it around, what would you want people to say of you at the end of your life?
2. What storms of life are you currently facing, and how would being a doer of the word help you face those storms? Are there particular truths of scripture that you or people in your circle of friends can focus on to help in this season of life?
3. Of the 13 sets of imperatives in the sermon on the mount that were shared, is there one or two that you would like to work on being a doer of in 2024? What are some practical steps to making progress on being successful? (accountability, overcoming typical obstacles, goals to set, etc.?)