Storm Ready April 7, 2024 Lead Pastor Dr. Phil Willingham

I. FACTS ABOUT STORMS:

- We can try to **IGNORE** the storm.
- We can be FRIGHTENED by the storm.
- We can try to <u>FIGHT</u> the storm.
- We can LEAN on the one who controls the storm.

Matthew 7:24–27 (NKJV) "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: 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. "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: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

II. THE STORMS ON THE HOUSE ON THE ROCK

- A. He tells us the <u>SAME</u> trials came to both of them.
- B. THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT AS A CHRISTIAN, YOU HAVE A <u>FOUNDATION</u> THAT HOLDS YOU UP THROUGH THE STORMS!

III. WHAT IS "THE HOUSE ON THE ROCK"?

<u>Verse 24</u> "Everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them may be COMPARED to a man who built his house upon the rock."

- A. BUILDING YOUR HOUSE ON THE ROCK MEANS DOING WHAT JESUS SAYS!
- B. BUILDING YOUR HOUSE ON THE SAND MEANS NOT DOING WHAT JESUS SAYS.

James 1:22-25 says, "But prove yourselves DOERS of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."

IV. HOW TO BUILD YOUR HOUSE ON THE ROCK

- 1. "Jesus' words are meant to be OBEYED, not just heard.
 - John 14:23-24 "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."
- 2. Can others around you testify that you are a Christ follower because your <u>ACTIONS</u> are in line with God's WORD?

ACTION POINTS

- 1. How you see the storm will determine your success.
- 2. How you maneuver through storms reveals your weakness or strength.
- 3. Storms expose errors in your plan that may lead to catastrophe.
- **4.** Storms are wake-up calls to let you know if you've grown spiritually or not.