



SERMON ON THE **MOUNT**

**“The Wise Man
Builds on the Rock”
Matthew 7:24-29**

**²⁴“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and does them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain descended, and the rivers came, and the winds blew and fell against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone hearing these words of Mine and not doing them, may be compared to a foolish man who built his house on the sand.
Matthew 7:24-29**

**²⁷And the rain descended, and the rivers came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”²⁸Now it happened that when Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were astonished at His teaching; ²⁹for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.
Matthew 7:24-29**

Introduction

A. The Sermon on the Mount is the most famous sermon ever preached. The Sermon on the Mount, like every good sermon, has an introduction, the body of the sermon, and a conclusion.

B. Jesus began His conclusion in 7:13. In verses 13-27 He warns us of two gates, two trees, two professions, and two builders.

Introduction

C. Last week we learned about false prophets and false professors.

Introduction

D. This morning I want to mention some sound, godly teachers your pastors recommend to you.

**(1) The Sword & the Trowel podcast
(<https://founders.org/the-sword-the-trowel/>)**

**(2) The Briefing podcast by Albert Mohler
(<https://albertmohler.com/the-briefing/>)**

Introduction

D. This morning I want to mention some sound, godly teachers your pastors recommend to you.

**(3) Apologia Studios podcast
(<https://apologiastudios.com>)**

**(4) Bible Study with Brother Luke Hayes
(<https://www.youtube.com/@lukejosiah2025>)**

Introduction

E. Our verses today contain one of the most well-known stories in all of the Bible.

F. The wise man built his house on the rock and the foolish man built his house on the sand. One house survived the storm; the other house did not.

Introduction

G. If you want to build a house that will pass inspection and stand strong in the storm, you must hear and heed the plan the architect draws up and follow his specifications precisely. You also must have your soil inspected to make sure it will support the structure.

H. Big Idea: The mark of true discipleship is not simply hearing and believing, but believing and doing.

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

A. The wise man hears and obeys the words of Jesus. (7:24-25)

1. Sink holes are terrible. A sink hole is a natural hole under the surface that develops over time due to erosion. They're hard to detect. If you're buying a house, look for cracks in the structure of the house.

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

2. No one would intentionally build a house over a sink hole or on top of sand. But some people do build over a sink hole.

3. In this parable, Jesus is giving us "the same warning about the danger of a lack of obedience, of being content with listening to the gospel and not putting it into practice" (Martyn Lloyd-Jones).

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

4. Jesus is talking to people who were hearing His words. And these people were claiming to be saved and actively engaged in religious works.

5. The Bible warns us of self-deception. Both men in the parable thought they were safe.

¹⁴What use is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? ¹⁷Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead by itself.

James 2:14-20

**¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith; and I have works. Show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” ¹⁹You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. ²⁰But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?
James 2:14-20**

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

6. The issue is not hearing. The real issue is doing. On what are you building your life?

**7. The way you respond to Jesus' words reveals whether you are wise or foolish.
(James 2:14-20)**

8. True disciples obey Christ.

**I. Build Your Life on the Firm
Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)**

9. Pop Quiz. Have you found an enemy to forgive? Have you been working on that log in your own eye? Have you prayed for people who have mistreated you? Does the fruit of your life provide evidence of a changed life? Is God's kingdom central to how you structure your life?

**I. Build Your Life on the Firm
Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)**

10. If not, why do you think you're spiritually ok? Why do you call Jesus "Lord, Lord" and not obey what he commands? (John 14:15)

**I. Build Your Life on the Firm
Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)**

**B. The foolish man hears and disobeys the
words of Jesus. (7:26-27)**

- 1. Both men hear the words of Jesus.**
- 2. Hearing the Word of God is not a neutral activity. It either humbles us or it hardens us.**
- 3. What commands of Jesus are you not obeying? What teaching of Jesus are you dismissing?**

**I. Build Your Life on the Firm
Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)**

- 4. Look for the cracks of sin your life.**
- 5. Look for the cracks of an unforgiving spirit, deep-rooted bitterness, addiction, consuming materialism, dullness to the Word of God, missing out on gathering with believers on the Lord's day.**

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

6. The storm struck both houses. The wise man who heard and obeyed Jesus' words survived the storm. The foolish man who heard and then disobeyed Jesus' words did not survive the storm.

7. The storm is the final judgment. How well are you listening? You need to hear and do what He commands.

I. Build Your Life on the Firm Foundation of Jesus' Words (7:24-27)

8. Are the fruit of the Spirit evident in your life? Are the Scriptures changing how you think about your choices and lifestyle?

II. Obey the Authoritative Words of Jesus (7:28-29)

A. The words of Jesus are amazing. (7:28)

B. The words of Jesus have authority. (7:29)

C. “The point of the parable is clear. Just as confessions of faith without expressions of obedience do not guarantee salvation (Matt 7:21-23), hearing Jesus’ teaching without heeding His teaching leaves one unprepared for divine judgment” (Chuck Quarles).

II. Obey the Authoritative Words of Jesus (7:28-29)

D. “These concluding words stand as a stark warning to all who read the Sermon on the Mount. The study of this sermon is not a mere academic exercise that satisfies a person’s curiosity about a great Teacher or stirs interest in the ethical instruction of an ancient Jewish philosopher. The Sermon on the Mount demands that hearers and readers obey its commands” (Chuck Quarles).

Conclusion

A. Think about how hard you work to achieve a goal. Shouldn't we pursue spiritual goals with such intensity?

B. If you invested in your earthly pursuit to the degree that you invest in your spiritual life, would you achieve your goal?

C. Which of these houses better describes your life? The wise man builds on the rock.

Conclusion

**D. "But become doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves"
(James 1:22).**

**E. "No reserve, no retreat, and no regrets"
(William Borden).**

F. The Gospel Definition

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.