

A Rock-Solid Life

Matthew 7:24-27, 28-29

²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

An **oversimplified** (and inaccurate) view of this passage:

- Life is _____ for everybody.
- Therefore, be a "_____".
- Then, no matter how bad things get, you still get to go to _____ one day.

Hear and Doing ... The Sine Qua Non* of Authentic Christianity ("Without which, not")

Remember the "I never knew you" crowd of vs. 21-23? What were they guilty of?

Two inherent dangers of hearing without doing: 1 John 1:6; James 1:22-25, Luke 6:46,49

- _____
... which inevitably leads to ...
- _____

The essential challenge of the Sermon on the Mount is not difficult:

Is Jesus – in every real, measurable, observable *and* unobservable way – _____
_____?

The metaphor of the two houses explained:

A "house" = _____

Flooding rains and violent winds = _____

The "rock" = _____

Two options: " _____ " or " _____ "

Two outcomes: _____ or _____

Some **conclusions**:

Building "on the rock" means _____ than "becoming a Christian".

It necessarily includes ...

A solid foundation doesn't _____ the "big storms" of life. It does, however, _____ you for them and enable you to _____ them.

When _____ hits, the lies of a _____ will not hold up. (Not *now* – and not in *eternity*)

The big question: Am I building a life that will stand?

Epilogue: **The Authority of Jesus**

²⁸ And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹ for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

Jesus' words are _____ to be obeyed, not _____ to be considered.

ALL Jesus' commands are _____ and _____. To obey them is to choose _____.

(Likewise, disregarding them is _____ and _____ ... To deny God is to push back against _____.)