

Building on the Rock

Both Matthew and Luke end their summaries of Jesus' early preaching with a parable about a house being built on a good foundation. Houses, like lives, must be built well – with intention and effort. Jesus tells this parable in order to impress upon those who follow him the importance of building well.

Three lessons on building a life that will survive the flood: Reading the parable in light of verse 47

1. Coming to Jesus

- a. This is not a reference to being born again
- b. The 'crowd... came to hear him' in 6:17-18
- c. Saying, "Lord, Lord" is not enough. (Matt. 7:21-23)

2. Hearing Jesus' Words

- a. This implies they understand what Jesus says
- b. Many professing Christians today are like those who "came to Jesus and heard him."
- c. Even Satan can quote the Bible – Luke 4:10-11

3. Doing what Jesus Says

- a. This is hard work! It requires "digging down deep"
- b. Obeying Jesus must be foundational to the lives we build

Application:

1. Are there areas in your life where you need to improve your foundation?
2. What 'floods of life' are you facing right now – and is your life, through humble obedience, built on Christ's words?
3. What are the fundamental criteria by which you decide how you will live?

