

The Sermon on the Mount  
The Wise One and the Foolish One;  
Matthew 7:24-29

Not a complicated parable

Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

Though daily life would certainly be an aspect of a life built on a solid foundation, this parable fits better with the context as an eschatological event

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Matthew 7:16-19 "Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'"

Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

This risk is self-deception. Like the road and the sheep, the builders pick their foundations assuming they have selected well or that they are safe. We can be deceived by ourselves or by others. This parable warns us to be wise in our response to the teachings of Jesus.

Matthew 7:15 Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

It seems that Jesus has in mind false prophets who would direct our paths away from the life and teachings of Jesus. They seem like fellow sheep, but they are not. Deception is the issue throughout the conclusion of this sermon. Self-deception and the deception of false prophets.

James 1:21-22 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

Much like the two roads and the two trees and two claims, we have two builders

The Wise One

I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus

The Wise One

I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus

II. Lives According to the Teachings of Jesus

The Wise One

I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus

II. Lives According to the Teachings of Jesus

III. Perseveres when the Testing Comes

Much like the two roads and the two trees and two claims, we have two builders, and we come to the second builder, the foolish builder

Matthew 7:26-27 “Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”

The Foolish One

I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus

The Foolish One

I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus

II. Discards the Teachings of Jesus

## The Foolish One

- I. Hears the Teachings of Jesus
- II. Discards the Teachings of Jesus
- III. Fails when the Testing Comes

Matthew 7:28-29 When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.