

BUILDING A LIFE THAT LASTS

Pastor's Bible Hour – December 14, 2008

Tabernacle of Praise - Pastor G. Richardson

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Mat 7:26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

Mat 7:27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Mat 7:25

And the rain descended - floods came - winds blew - In Judea, and in all countries in the neighborhood of the tropics, the rain sometimes falls in great torrents, producing rivers, which sweep away the soil from the rocky hills; and the houses, which are built of brick only dried in the sun, of which there are whole villages in the east, literally melt away before those rains, and the land-floods occasioned by them.

THREE GENERAL KINDS OF TRIALS

(There are three general kinds of trials to which the followers of God's people are exposed; and to, which some think, our Lord alludes to here in this parable.)

1. **First, those temporal afflictions**, coming in the course of Divine providence are external circumstances, outside influence or divine intervention. All these trials are like the torrents (fast moving water, white water) of rain. The trials of life make God's people look heavenward.

2Co 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;
2Co 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

Joh 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Rev 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that thou mayest see.

Pro 24:10 *If* thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

2. **The Secondly, those trials which come from the passions of men**, and which may be likened to the impetuous (sudden, reckless, spontaneous) rivers.

a. **We must ride the wild horses of our lives** (passions that drive us away from God or the House of God.) or my own desires that over ride godly decisions or conduct.

Pro 14:29 *He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.*

Pro 25:28 He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is broken down, and without walls.*

1Co 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

Pro 20:13 Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, *and* thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

(Example)

Jdg 14:3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, *Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines?* And Samson said unto his father, **Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.**

Jos 7:19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide *it* not from me.

Jos 7:20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:

Jos 7:21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

3. **Thirdly, those trials which come from a direct attack of Satan and his angels.** These are like the tempestuous whirlwinds, threat to carry every thing and to destroy your spiritual and natural life.

Luk 22:31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired *to have* you, that he may sift *you* as wheat:

Luk 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Luk 4:3 And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.

Luk 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

Psa 34:18 The LORD *is nigh* unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Psa 34:19 Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

Psa 34:20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

(The phrase, “the Lord is nigh,” means that he is ready to hear and to help.)

BEFORE WE CAME TO GOD

1. **Before we came to God we were building our lives on the sinking sands of the world’s philosophy,** and the passions of

our flesh, and the pleasures dreams of this world. And were on the broad road of destruction.

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, **who were dead in trespasses and sins**

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Eph 2:4 **But God, who is rich in mercy**, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

1Ti 5:6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

(It properly means to live in luxury, excess or (extravagance); to indulge freely in eating and drinking; to yield to the indulgence of the appetites.)

Is dead while she liveth - To all the proper purposes of life she is as if she were dead. There is great emphasis in this expression, and nothing could convey more forcibly the idea that true happiness is not to be found in the pleasure of this kind of logic.

2. Those who are building their lives on the broken dreams and the sifting sands of life are left with empty and unfulfilled lives and are never satisfied. Needs to come to two conclusions: (1) Realization (2) Revelation.
 - a. **Realization**: I need a saviour, I am tired of the Brick and Straw life.
 - b. **Revelation**: Only Jesus has the answers to my dilemma

TAKE A HOLD ON YOUR DESTINY

Isa 9:10 The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycamores are cut down, but we will change *them into* cedars.

(Isaiah 9:10)

The Bricks – “The eastern bricks,” are only clay well moistened with water, and mixed with straw, and dried in the sun. So their walls are commonly no better than our mud walls. That straw was necessary part in the composition of this sort of bricks, to make the parts of the clay adhere together, appears from Exodus 5. These bricks are properly opposed to hewn stone, so greatly superior in beauty and durability.

The sycamores, Are timber of little worth, and equal propriety are opposed to the cedars. “As the grain and texture of the sycamore is remarkable course and spongy, it could not stand in no competition at all with the cedar, for beauty and ornament and durability.

Mat 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Mat 7:25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock.

Lay Hold to Eternal Life:

1Ti 6:19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

1. **Replace clay for hewn stones:**

- a. Faithfulness to the House of God
- b. Daily prayer and Bible reading
- c. Faithful in your giving of time, talent, and treasure to the Kingdom of God.
- d. Have a teachable and guidable spirit
- e. Be able to take a rebuke and correction
- f. Get involved in ministry and soul winning
- g. Get out of debt. Live within your means
- h. Be open for council
- i. Don't build your life around self, me and mine.

Isa 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Isa 61:4 And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

We now how you feel and we know what you need:

1Co 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

1Co 6:10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.