



Parables of Jesus—Obedience

Built On A Rock

Confession of Faith and Conduct of Faith

This parable is a contrast between obedient hearers and disobedient hearers. The parable is Jesus' closing comments on the Sermon on the Mount and the 'narrow way' of salvation. *Matt 7:13-14.*

Introduction: Salvation is based on a confession of faith—belief in the finished work of Jesus on the cross for my salvation. My life in Christ is based on 'conduct of faith' — living by and in the rock of my salvation.

The Parable

A. The Houses (*Outward Appearance*)

1. Both builders have heard the gospel :24; 26
2. The wise builds his house on the 'words of Mine.' :24
3. The foolish does not build on 'His words' but thinks he is secure simply because he has heard the 'words.'
4. Both have confidence that their houses will stand
 - a. One has confidence in the Lord
 - b. The other has confidence in himself
5. Both build their houses in the same general location since both were hit by the same storm.
 - a. **Key** here is that the outward circumstances of their lives were essentially the same.
6. We might say they were both religious, theologically orthodox, moral, served in the church, supported it financially, and were responsible citizens of the community. They seemed to believe alike and live alike.

B. The Foundation (*Internal-Structural Integrity*)

The differences between the two builders and the two houses they built **were not** noticeable from the outside.

1. Wisdom: One acted upon God's Word (obedience)

Built on the Rock

 - a. Building on the rock is equivalent to obeying God's Word.
 - b. Apostle Peter [*Matt 16:16-18*] The revelation of God [His Word] is what the church is built on.
 - c. The house built on the rock is the life of obedience that Jesus spoke about in the Sermon on the Mount.
 - d. It is a life that is concerned about internal righteousness rather than external form.

2. Foolish: One did not act upon God's Word (disobedience)

Built on the Sand

The **sand** is composed of human opinions, attitudes, and wills, which are always shifting and always unstable. To build on **sand** is to build on self-will, self-fulfillment, self-purpose, self-sufficiency, self-satisfaction, and self-righteousness. To build on **sand** is to be unteachable, to be "always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth"

2 Tim 3:7

Matthew 7:24-29

:24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

:25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

:26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

:27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

:28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching,

:29 for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

2Sa 22:47 "The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let God be exalted, The Rock of my salvation!"

Psa 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psa 18:46 The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted.

Psa 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

Psa 62:7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God.

Psa 89:26 He shall cry to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'