

The Wise and Foolish Builders

Two men build houses—one on rock, one on sand. When storms come, only the house on the rock stands. Those who hear and obey Jesus' words are like the wise builder.

Matthew 7:24-27 • Luke 6:46-49

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Wise builder, Foolish builder

THEMES: Obedience, Foundation, Hearing and doing, Storms of life

JESUS CONCLUDED HIS Sermon on the Mount with this parable:

'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.'

Both builders heard Jesus' words. Both built houses. From the outside, the houses may have looked similar. The difference was invisible—until the storm came.

The wise builder dug deep, laying his foundation on bedrock. This took time and effort. The foolish builder took shortcuts, building on the easy surface of sand. When fair weather continued, both builders seemed equally successful.

But storms always come. Trials, temptations, crises—no life escapes them. The storm reveals the foundation. The house on rock stands; the house on sand collapses.

Jesus makes clear: hearing is not enough. Knowing the right answers is not enough. Only those who hear AND obey—who put His words into practice—have a foundation that will hold.

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