

## Sermon Discussion Questions

Kingdom Precipice

Matthew 7:24-29

Nov 23, 2019

### Getting Started:

The Sermon on the Mount from Jesus was an invitation to a better way of living that was expressed by an illustration of relevance leading to a decision of pertinence.

Has anyone ever sat down with you and helped you think through the consequences of your decisions about how you live your life? Have you considered if your worldview works for both now and eternity?

### Going Deeper:

#### **The Comparison of Two Builders:**

**Defining Decision:** *“Everyone then who **hears** these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” (Vs. 24)*

**Willingness of the Builder:** *“does them”*

**Wisdom of the Builder:** *“wise man”*

**Work of the Builder:** *“built his house on the rock.”*

**Definitive Decision:** *“And everyone who **hears** these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.” (Vs. 26)*

**Failure of the Builder:** *“does not do them”*

**Folly of the Builder:** *“foolish man built his house”*

**Foundation of the Builder:** *“on the sand”*

The ‘words’ Jesus is referring to are all the things He has taught in Matthew 5-7. This is a kingdom-minded lifestyle filled with choices, commitments, and blessings for those who surrender to it. Choosing to let Jesus live in you makes you ‘salt’ and ‘light’, gives you amazing relationships with others, and leads you into Heaven. Go back over these chapters and share with us which parts of Jesus’ teaching were most impactful to you.

## **The Challenge of Two Builders:**

### **Reality of the Storm:**

**Unavoidable:** *“And the rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house”* (Vs. 25)

**Unmistakable:** *“And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against the house”* (Vs. 27)

### **Results of the Storm:**

**Unshakable:** *“but it did not fall”* (Vs. 25)

**Unstable:** *“and it fell”* (Vs. 27)

### **Revelation of the Storm:**

**Undeniable:** *“founded on the rock”* (Vs. 25)

**Unconceivable:** *“and great was the fall of it”* (Vs. 27)

In the geographical area Jesus was preaching in, everyone knew that the dry river beds called ‘wadi’s’ were deceptive. They were dry as dust in Summer months, but when the rains fell, they became swollen, raging rivers that destroyed everything in their path. So many people are choosing to live their lives with no realization that a day of judgment rain is coming and it will sweep away everything they are counting on. This vivid image from Jesus is a powerful warning to all of us to make sure our lives are built on the wisdom of following God’s ‘narrow’ ways of righteousness. **What are some things you believe that give you confidence your life is built on the rock and will not fall?**

## **The Choice of Two Builders: “Location, Location, Location!”**

### **To whom will you base your life?** Eternal Vs. Temporal

Too many people live their earthly lives as if this one physical life is all they have. They seek out power, possessions, prestige, and pleasure as a way to ‘get the most out of life.’ But the New Testament writers overwhelmingly teach us that all those who believe in Jesus will live a second life beyond this physical one. **See 2 Corin 5:1-9.** What strikes you the most about this passage?

## **How will you build your life?**

**Receive Jesus as Savior**

**Obey His Word**

**Controlled by the Holy Spirit**

**Kingdom Minded**

Have you made the decision to build your life on this R.O.C.K.? If not, what is keeping you from doing so? If so, which of the last three parts do you need to grow in most right now?

**What will brace your life?** A Storm is Coming!

**Take Away:** *“The Teaching of the Sermon on the Mount is not meant to be admired but to be obeyed.”* - R.T. France

**Prayer:**