

Which Foundation?

Description

Matthew 7:24-29

Jesus's parable contrasts two builders and two foundations: wise and foolish, rock and sand. Sand, with its fine grains, is easily shifted by flowing water. Making it an unsure foundation. Solid rock (petra: a ledge, or bedrock) makes a sure foundation. The same word appears later when Jesus tells Simon, "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it" (16:18). That rock was Peter's proclamation of faith in Jesus as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16).

This parable comes at the end of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). It may seem a strange way to end a sermon. Yet, like all good sermons, it leads us to a crisis (krisis, a separation, judgement, or decision). The hearer is encouraged to ask, "What have I built my life upon? The shifting sand of unstable human opinion or achievement, or the solid rock of faith in Christ Jesus and His unshakable kingdom?"

Author: Duane Brush

Date Created

2023/08/31