

"I felt this strange sense of being spoken to. Part of me was increasingly eager to spend time with the God of the Bible..."

"Today, I work closely with people whose lives are filled with medical struggles. I do not have adequate answers to explain all their suffering. But I know there is a God of unfathomable greatness and love who freely enters into relationship with all who confess their sins and call upon His name." – Dr. Rosalind Picard

"Not everyone who calls out to Me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of My Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to Me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in Your name and cast out demons in Your name and performed many miracles in Your name.'" (Matthew 7:21-22)

How we build our lives determines not only our eternal destiny, but our sense of satisfaction or contentment here and now.

The wise builder builds his life as one **"who listens to and follows the teaching"** of Jesus Christ. – Matthew 7:24

1. The two men shared the same vision. Both wanted to build a house.

2. Both men went to the same classroom and had the same professor.

We're not talking about one man having a love for hearing the truth, and another man with total contempt for it. We're talking about both men giving themselves to Scripture...

3. They were both affected by the same storm.

The description of the storm is precisely the same in both cases, and affected both men. In the same way, everybody here is affected by a deadly virus.

4. It's all about foundations.

Wisdom, in the Bible, is to take divine truth and apply it to life.

The fool is not always the person who lacks information. It's the person who does little or nothing with the information they have!

What separates the wise from the fool?

What do I need to know about these different foundations?

1. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter into the blessing of God's presence! – Matthew 7:21

The fool is a person who uses the Christian vocabulary, recites the creeds and prayers, attends the services, takes part in service, yet he doesn't know the Bible nor does he

accept the Bible as the inspired Word and revealed message from God.

What is the will of God?

The person who does God's will is the person who truly believes, obeys, and loves God's Son.

Are the works that you do known in heaven because Christ is honored and loved in your heart?

2. "Anyone who listens to My teaching and follows it is like the wise person who builds a house on solid rock!" – Matthew 7:24

Hear again what the protesters said to Jesus. "Lord, have we not prophesied ...and cast out demons... and performed many miracles in Your name? Look at what we've done!"

There's a big difference in worshiping God when all is well and worshiping God when all is wrong.

If you hold fast to God's Word, whatever storms you might endure won't have the last word...

John 14:1-3 – "Do not let your hearts be troubled..."

Matthew 6:33-34 – "...So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Let today's trouble be enough for today."

Matthew 11:28-30 – "Come to Me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

John 16:33 – "...Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

PRAYER: Lord God, I confess that I've not dared to surrender my all to You. I've been "performing," hoping to impress You with my good deeds and efforts. But I am exposed today – and for that, I am grateful! You have pointed out my feeble excuses and at the same time You're inviting me to receive the assurance of life through the very presence of Your Spirit in me! Forgive me, Lord, for my sin is great. And teach me to honor the Spirit of Jesus Christ in my life from this day forward, for I am ready to listen. Teach me to follow and to do what You have planned for me all along. It is in Jesus' name I pray. Amen