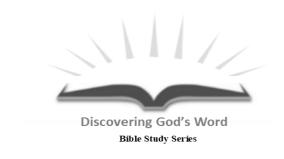
Building Houses On Sand





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Learn about the foundation you should be building your life on and some foundations you should not be building your life on

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Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

Study Number: DGW139

Written by Eric Krieg

About the author: My name is Eric Krieg. I am a disciple of Jesus, a Bible student, a truth seeker, and an evangelist. My interest is in using the Bible as my only guide in my faith. My desire is to help others understand the message of the Bible and pursue true, New Testament Christianity.

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My plea: It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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Building Houses On Sand

Many people are building "houses" with their lives that look immaculate on the outside. They have physical houses that are beautiful. They have families that seem to have it together. They have a well-paying job. Or, perhaps each spouse works to support the family's standard of living. They may have children who are doing well in school, as well as in athletics or in some other kind of hobby/recreational activity. From the outside, their lives seem to be wonderful.

Down the street, there is another "house" that also looks wonderful on the outside (though it is different from the last). Here is an individual with no family. But, this individual has a well-paying job and very few earthly responsibilities. So, this individual has nice automobiles, luxuries in the home, expensive clothes, etc. Since this individual has no family, he/she indulges in whatever pleasures that are desired. Many nights are spent in carefree revelry. From the outside, this individual seems to have a wonderful life.

Down the street just a little further, there is a "house" that is under construction. It doesn't look as nice as the others...yet. These individuals are building their lives with the hopes of achieving the measure of "success" that the others have found. Although their definition of worldly success may be just a little different from the others, they are still working diligently to achieve that measure of "success." Sometimes progress seems to be made toward that goal. Other times, things happen that seem to prevent that "ideal" way of life.

You see, each and every person on this earth is building a "house" with their lives. But, the

question we must ask ourselves is: Whose blueprint are we using? Are we trying to build lives that look like the models of worldly "success" that we can see all around us? Or, do we recognize that there is a better Architect who wants to build something far better with our lives?

The decisions that we make throughout our lives can be traced to the foundation we are building upon. Many people have chosen worldly measures of "success" as the foundation they base all their decisions on. A few others have chosen that God is the only one who will provide the proper foundation for their lives.

Let's listen to Jesus in Matthew 7:24-27. "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: 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. 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: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

In this lesson, we want to carefully evaluate the foundation we are building our lives upon. We are either building wisely or foolishly. So, we will consider how it is that many are building houses on sand that are doomed for destruction, as well as how we can build upon the solid Rock. To help in our study, we will be evaluating the life of King Solomon. In his time (and perhaps even still), he was one of the wealthiest people to live on this earth, experienced some of the greatest earthly pleasures, had great earthly standing as king, etc. From the outside, the "house" that he was building with his life surely looked magnificent. But, at one time, he was building a "house" on sand.

Houses Built On Sand

The "sand" upon which many people build their lives are earthly things. Many put their focus on accumulating these things, on enjoying these things, etc. and do not think about how fragile this foundation really is. At one time, this was true about King Solomon. Although Solomon initially lived to serve God, he abandoned God and lived for his own worldly pleasures. Therefore, let's take a stroll and consider some "houses" that are built on sand. As we do, please recognize that it only takes building on one of these foundations to build a house on sand.

Houses built on wealth

Solomon, who wrote the book of Ecclesiastes, tested himself with all kinds of worldly things during his life in order to see whether any of them produced true happiness and meaning in life. The book of Ecclesiastes describes his journey and his findings. In Ecclesiastes 2:4-9, he describes the wealth that he acquired, "I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards. I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made myself water pools from which to water the growing trees of the grove. I acquired male and female servants, and had servants born in my house. Yes, I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me. I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delights of the sons of men, and musical instruments of all kinds. So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me."

There are many "houses" built on the foundation of earthly wealth. These individuals value the money and possessions they have more than all the rest. So, they put their careers first in their lives. They work diligently to move up the corporate ladder. They put in as long of hours as is required in order to have the kind of paycheck that is desired so as to support their standard of living. They put great emphasis on their retirement and 401K. They are focused on their physical possessions and accumulating even more.

Houses built on pleasures

In addition to great earthly wealth, Solomon enjoyed some of the greatest worldly pleasures that anyone could hope to experience. In Ecclesiastes 2:1-

3, he said, "I said in my heart, 'Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure'; but surely, this also was vanity. I said of laughter—'Madness!': and of mirth, 'What does it accomplish?' I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives." Verse 10 says, "Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor." This pursuit of pleasure even included whatever sexual pleasures he desired. For, this man had 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3).

There are many "houses" built on the foundation of earthly pleasures. These individuals live in search of the next worldly pleasure. This could be the pleasures of illicit sexual relationships. This could be pleasures found through consuming alcoholic beverages or using drugs. This could be the pleasures of carefree living through the pursuit of hobbies, entertainment, and recreation. This could be the pleasures of eating the best tasting food possible. This could be the pleasures of traveling and vacationing.

Houses built on relationships

As king, Solomon had many relationships to experience. Certainly, this included his 700 wives, 300 concubines, and his children. At one point in his life, Solomon built his life on this foundation. His focus was on having these relationships and pleasing his wives and concubines (read 1 Kings 11:1-8). His love for these women surpassed even his love for God. Then, he had the attention of all the people in the nation of Israel who were under his command. Surely, as such a powerful and wealthy king, he could have had relationships with anyone he had desired.

There are many "houses" built on the foundation of earthly relationships. These individuals live for their family. They want to do everything they possibly can to have a happy home and close family ties. They live to please their spouses and children. They put the physical well-

being of their children ahead of everything. They make sure that their children have everything they want. They get their children involved in all kinds of sports and hobbies — even if they have to spend all their time running their children to these activities. Or, they live for their friends. They work diligently to develop and maintain these relationships. And, there is nothing more enjoyable to them than spending time with these individuals.

Houses built on earthly "wisdom"

One of the most notable things about Solomon was his wisdom. In fact, God even blessed him with great wisdom (see 1 Kings 3:4-14). And, although this kind of wisdom that comes from God is a wonderful thing and helps us build on the right foundation, Solomon (apparently) also sought earthly wisdom. Ecclesiastes 1:16 says, "I communed with my heart, saying, 'Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge.""

There are many "houses" built on the foundation of earthly "wisdom." This kind of wisdom is *not* the wisdom that comes from God, but it is the "wisdom" that is widely accepted by the people of the world. So, these individuals value their worldly education and collegiate degrees they have obtained. They seek to understand the world only through the things that they can observe around them. They strive to learn the latest philosophies. Their ambition in life may be to use this "wisdom" to make more prosperity on this earth, preserve this earth for future generations, etc.

Houses built on false religion

Although Solomon had, at one time, been a servant of the true God, he allowed his heart to be turned away from God by his many foreign wives and concubines. 1 Kings 11:4-8 says, "For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the

Lord, as did his father David. Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods."

There are many "houses" built on false religion. Some of these individuals may reject Jesus Christ completely and refuse to follow the teachings of the Bible at all. So, some practice Atheism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Satanism, Humanism, Islam, etc. There are others who do believe that the Bible is the word of God and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but they do not practice and believe all that the Bible teaches. Therefore, there are many people who build their lives on a form of "Christianity." Yet, their "Christianity" is not according to the true doctrines of the Bible. As such, they may be involved in denominationalism.

The Cracking Foundations Of Houses Built On Sand

As we consider all of these foundations that many people build their lives on, I am not suggesting that we cannot have any wealth, enjoy any physical pleasures, have fulfilling earthly relationships, etc. I am only suggesting that these things are foundations made of sand. They are sand because they only pertain to this earthly life. So, by nature, they are all temporary. Therefore, if you look closely enough at the "houses" built on these foundations, you will be able to see some cracking and erosion to what might otherwise appear magnificent structures. Ultimately, all of these foundations will experience this kind of decay because of the reality of physical death!

Wealth is elusive

Solomon possessed greater wealth than all the kings before him. Yet, true happiness and fulfillment still eluded him whenever he sought it by wealth. He said, "Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the

wind. There was no profit under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 2:11). Ecclesiastes 2:17-23 says, "Therefore I hated life because the work that was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind. Then I hated all my labor in which I had toiled under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will come after me. And who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will rule over all my labor in which I toiled and in which I have shown myself wise under the sun. This also is vanity. Therefore I turned my heart and despaired of all the labor in which I had toiled under the sun. For there is a man whose labor is with wisdom, knowledge, and skill; yet he must leave his heritage to a man who has not labored for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. For what has man for all his labor, and for the striving of his heart with which he has toiled under the sun? For all his days are sorrowful, and his work burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest. This also is vanity." Then, Ecclesiastes 4:8 says, "There is one alone, without companion: He has neither son nor brother. Yet there is no end to all his labors, Nor is his eye satisfied with riches. But he never asks, 'For whom do I toil and deprive myself of good?' This also is vanity and a grave misfortune."

If you look closely at the "houses" that are built on wealth, you will see clear cracking and erosion to the foundation. Even though these people are in search of meaning and happiness through wealth, they will never find it. For, the more that such a person accumulates and the harder this individual works, he/she is never satisfied and has "enough." Then, this individual must begin to make plans for what will be done with all the wealth and possessions that have been accumulated after he/she dies. Perhaps it will go to family members, who will also enjoy this wealth for a short time before their earthly lives end. Or, perhaps this individual has worked very hard, but has no heirs. Then, there is no way of knowing how the ones who will inherit these possessions after you will manage them. Although you may have shown great diligence in accumulating these things, perhaps the ones after you will be foolish and waste what is inherited. So, if you are building your life on the foundation of earthly

wealth, you must recognize that it is a cracking foundation because it is elusive!

Pleasures are passing

Solomon enjoyed many earthly pleasures. But, he recognized that they never produced true fulfillment or true happiness. In Ecclesiastes 1:8, he said, "All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor the ear filled with hearing." No matter what pleasures he experienced, they never produced true satisfaction. For, if Solomon experienced one pleasure, he sought after more once it subsided. Later, he said, "Truly the light is sweet, And it is pleasant for the eyes to behold the sun; But if a man lives many years And rejoices in them all, Yet let him remember the days of darkness, For they will be many. All that is coming is vanity" (Ecclesiastes 11:7-8). Although there is nothing inherently wrong with experiencing pleasures on this earth, Solomon warns that they are truly passing. For, he warns that times of hardship and difficulty are coming (read Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8). At the end of it all, Solomon recognized that death would be experienced and the pleasures that were experienced would be worth nothing.

If you look closely at the "houses" that are built on earthly pleasures, you will see clear cracking and erosion to the foundation. Those who seek true joy, fulfillment, and lasting satisfaction through this kind of pleasure will always be looking for the next momentary pleasure. But, this too will soon pass away. The pleasure that a person finds in sexual relations, alcohol, drugs, entertainment, recreation, etc. all end. And, this person must wait until the next opportunity for such pleasure. And, such a one will search for even greater pleasure in the future. But, ultimately, they all do not last and such a one faces the reality of his/her own death – and, with it, the end to all physical pleasures. So, if you are building your life on the foundation of earthly pleasures, you must recognize that it is a cracking foundation because they are passing!

Relationships are lost

Solomon had many earthly relationships. In fact, he probably had far more earthly relationships than any of us have today. With regard to his

popularity as king, he recognized how quickly this could be lost. In Ecclesiastes 4:13-16, he spoke of a king who had no end to the people he had rule over and who rejoiced in the king. But, he said, "those who come afterward will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and grasping for the wind." He recognized that kingdoms could be lost and even kings can be forgotten. Then, with regard to Solomon's 1,000 wives and concubines, just consider how many of these relationships were lost at death (if not before). Solomon said, "One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever" (Ecclesiastes 1:4). So, even if Solomon had many years to enjoy these physical relationships, they were all severed at the time of death.

If you look closely at the "houses" that are built on earthly relationships, you will see clear cracking and erosion to the foundation. The closest of families are being torn apart every day this earth continues. Sometimes they are being torn apart by divorce. Sometimes they are torn apart over disagreements. Sometimes they are torn apart by other relationships. Sometimes they are torn apart due to money. And, they are all being torn apart by death. For, not only will you die, but all your loved ones will also die. Then, the same things are true regarding friendships. These are broken up over many things - each and every day. And, they will also all be severed by the great enemy of death. So, if you are building your life on the foundation of earthly relationships, you must recognize that it is a cracking foundation because they will all be lost!

Earthly "wisdom" is changing

Solomon had a great amount of earthly wisdom (as well as true wisdom that came from God). With regard to his earthly wisdom, he said, "And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind. For in much wisdom is much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow" (Ecclesiastes 1:17-18). Then, not only did Solomon lament his earthly "wisdom" because of this, but also because it ends at the time of death. "For there is no more remembrance of the wise than of the fool forever, Since all that now is will be

forgotten in the days to come. And how does a wise man die? As the fool!" (Ecclesiastes 2:16).

If you look closely at the "houses" that are being built on earthly "wisdom," you will see clear cracking and erosion to the foundation. Often, this perceived "wisdom" even goes against the truth that God has revealed (see Romans 1:19-25 and 1 Corinthians 1:18-31). Then, as individuals strive throughout their lives for this kind of "wisdom," they never accumulate all the "wisdom" they could obtain. There is always something else to learn or experience. There is always another college course to take, another book to read, another subject to study, etc. Then, all of this information that is gained often disagrees with other information he/she gains. And, this information is always changing. There are always new discoveries, studies that contradict what was previously thought to be true, etc. The "wisdom" of the world is constantly shifting and evolving. Then, ultimately, whenever you die, you will not continue to use this information you have worked so hard to obtain. So, if you are building your life on the foundation of earthly "wisdom," you must recognize that it is a cracking foundation because it is everchanging!

False religion is deceptive

Solomon sought after false gods at one time in his life. His wives and concubines convinced him to turn his heart from serving the true and living God to worshiping and serving false gods. But, even though he was still "religious," he failed to live in a way that was beneficial for his soul. "So the Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded" (1 Kings 11:9-10). Therefore, the Lord brought consequences on Solomon. And, if he died in this rebellious state, he is now experiencing great torment and will experience punishment in Hell for all eternity.

If you look closely at the "houses" that are built on false religion, you will see clear cracking and erosion to the foundation. Although they may acknowledge the importance of worshiping and serving a higher power, perhaps they are acknowledging a false god. Or, perhaps they acknowledge the true God, but do not do the things He commands. Even those who profess to be "Christians" often fail to worship and serve God according to what He instructs. Although this may provide such individuals with a hope of eternal salvation throughout their earthly lives, this is a false hope. Ultimately, whenever these individuals experience death and whenever they are judged by Jesus Christ, those who have not believed the doctrines revealed throughout the Scriptures and obeyed God's commandments will not be saved even though they may have believed in Jesus Christ (see Matthew 7:21-23). So, if you are building your life on the foundation of false religion, you must recognize that it is a cracking foundation because it is deceptive!

The Fall Of Houses Built On Sand

Although these "houses" that are built on sand can look exquisite from a distance, a close and thorough examination shows there are many cracks in the foundation. These lives are often not nearly as happy, satisfying, and glamorous as they appear to be. Then, just as Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-27, they will all come crashing down one day. Let's briefly examine three realities that will bring every house that is built on sand crashing down.

Everyone will die

We have already seen that the certainty of physical death exposes some of the cracks in these foundations. And, the fact that each and every person who ever lives on this earth will experience physical death one day means that none of these foundations will endure. Throughout the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon recognized this to be true. For instance, Ecclesiastes 5:15 says, "As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, To go as he came; And he shall take nothing from his labor Which he may carry away in his hand." You will not be able to take your wealth with you when you die.

You will not be able to experience physical pleasures when you die. You will not have any earthly relationships when you die. Your earthly "wisdom" will do you no good when you die. And, you will no longer believe in any false forms of religion when you die.

Then, you must recognize that no one is exempt from experiencing physical death. Even as powerful, wealthy, and influential as Solomon was, he was only king for 40 years – and then he died. So, Solomon concluded, "No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, And no one has power in the day of death. There is no release from that war, And wickedness will not deliver those who are given to it" (Ecclesiastes 8:8).

You will not fight against death and win. Ultimately, it will get to you. Even if you win some battles against death by beating some diseases and having your life extended, it will win in the end. For, who do you know who is so powerful as to avoid experiencing physical death? No matter how wealthy an individual is, no matter how powerful an individual is, no matter how many relationships a person has, no matter how intelligent an individual seems to be, and no matter how religious a person is, he/she will experience death. And, if he/she built his/her life on a foundation that is only of this world, everything he/she lived for will be useless! So, if you are building your "house" on any earthly thing, know that death will destroy it all!

All will be judged

There is something else that is coming after physical death is experienced. This is *not* the end of a person's existence. Each and every person has a soul that continues to exist. And, the Bible is clear in teaching that Jesus Christ will return and, at this time, judge every person who has lived on this earth. Solomon concluded his search for meaning, happiness, and fulfillment in the book of Ecclesiastes by saying, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Everything that you have done while you lived on this earth will be evaluated by Jesus Christ on this day. And, in recognition of this truth, Solomon concludes that the true purpose in life is not to gain wealth, experience earthly pleasures, enjoy earthly relationships, increase in intelligence, or practice false religion. Instead, he concludes that "man's all" (that is, the whole duty/purpose of mankind upon the earth) is to fear God and keep His commandments. This will be the only thing that will have a lasting impact on this day.

For, God will judge you through Jesus Christ for everything you have ever thought, said, or done. Even the things that you believed nobody else knew about will be brought into judgment by the God who knows and sees everything! And, the standard by which your life will be judged is the word of God (revealed in the pages of the Bible, see John 12:48 and Revelation 20:11-15)! So, if you are concerned about all things being well with your soul and being found acceptable to Jesus Christ on this Day of Judgment, you will live your life in the fear of the Lord and keep His commandments. For, if you are building your "house" on any earthly thing, your life will not be found to please God on this Day – since the ways of this world are contrary to the ways of God (see 1 John 2:15-17)!

Eternity will begin

As I have mentioned, the Bible teaches that we all possess a spiritual element to our existence that continues even after we experience physical death. Then, the Bible teaches that there are only two possible places that we will spend eternity after we are judged by Jesus Christ. These are Heaven and Hell.

Solomon said, "Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God" (Ecclesiastes 8:12-13). It will be well with those who fear God and obey Him spiritually. These are the ones who will live eternally with God in Heaven (see Hebrews 5:9). However, those who do not fear God and practice things that are against the

law of God that is revealed in the Bible will experience eternal punishment in the eternal fires of Hell (see 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Revelation 21:8).

Yes, you will spend eternity in one of these two places, based on whether you lived your life to please God or whether you disobeyed God during your earthly life. If you built your "house" on an earthly foundation rather than living to please God, you will not be able to do anything to escape your eternal destination in Hell fire. For instance, Jesus spoke of a man who built his house on a foundation of sand and the horrors that he now experiences, in Luke 16:19-31. This "rich man" lived on "Easy Street" during his earthly life. This was his main focus during his life. But, this man died. Then, Jesus says that this man found himself in torments in Hades. He was so tormented by the flame in this place and he could not even have a moment of relief provided for him. And, it is important to recognize that this is just the temporary place the wicked will go after death. Then, they will go to the eternal fires of Hell after the Judgment! So, if you are building your life on the foundation of some earthly thing, please recognize that it will not be well with your soul for eternity. Recognize that you will suffer endlessly because the "house" that you built on sand will collapse!

Building Your House On The Firm Foundation

There is only one solid foundation that you can and should build your life on. Think back to what Jesus taught in Matthew 7:24-27. He said that those who heard what He taught and did not listen to Him would be like the man who built his house on the sand – and the fall of this house would be great. But, Jesus said that everyone who heard His word and obeyed what He taught would be like the wise man who built his house on the rock – whose house stood firm, though it endured many storms. So, let's consider this two-fold foundation that each one of us must build our lives upon in order to experience true satisfaction by spending eternity in Heaven.

The firm foundation of Jesus Christ

If you want to experience good after your earthly life ends, then you must recognize that Jesus Christ is the only way. For, He promises that He is building many dwelling places in Heaven and will come again for those who follow Him (see John 14:1-4). Then, He says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

The fact of the matter is that we have all built "houses" on sand at some point in time. We have all put earthly things before God and sinned against Him (Romans 3:23). But, the only way we can have forgiveness of our sins is through Jesus Christ, who died to save us! Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

The firm foundation of the word of God

Jesus is the one and only way to be saved. Then, Hebrews 5:9 says, "And having been perfected, He [Jesus] became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him." So, Jesus does not save us automatically, just because He died for us. In fact, Jesus said that most people will be eternally lost – even many religious people who have claimed to believe and follow Him (see Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23). Jesus requires that we be obedient to His words. And, this includes all of what God has revealed in the pages of the New Testament.

This firm foundation never changes (1 Peter 1:25). God has given it to us as a pattern for us to live our lives by in order to please Him (2 Timothy 1:13). Everything God wants us to do in order to please Him is found in His written word (see 2 Timothy 3:16-17). Therefore, God says, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14). If you obey God's word by hearing what God says (Romans 10:17), believing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24), repenting of your sins (Acts 17:30), confessing Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10), being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38), and remaining faithful in obedience to Jesus Christ throughout your life (Revelation 2:10), you will be saved from the consequences of your sins and have eternal life in Heaven!

Conclusion

Who or what are you building the "house" of your life on? Who or what is most important to you? Who or what are you trying to please the most? Who or what is your greatest ambition in life? You need to be diligent in making these evaluations! If you are building your life on the things of this earth, you should observe the cracking and erosion that is happening to the foundation and know that it will all come crashing down whenever you die, when you stand before Jesus Christ in Judgment, and when you will spend eternity in Hell fire! Only if you build on the solid foundation of Jesus Christ and His word will your life be truly worthwhile – when you fear God and keep His commandments throughout your life on this earth! For, whenever your earthly life ends and you are judged by Jesus Christ, you will spend eternity in Heaven! So, Jesus asks, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

Study Questions

Building Houses On Sand

Who or what is the foundation you have been building your life upon?

1. Houses Built On Sand

How did Solomon try to build his life on wealth? How do many people build their lives on wealth today? How did Solomon try to build his life on pleasures? How do many people build their lives on pleasures today?

What problems should be observed about building your life on false religion?

How did Solomon try to build his life on relationships? How do many people build their lives on relationships today?

3. The Fall Of Houses Built On Sand

How will your death collapse the house you build on sand?

How did Solomon try to build his life on earthly "wisdom"? How do many people build their lives on earthly "wisdom" today?

How will your judgment collapse the house you build on sand?

How did Solomon try to build his life on false religion? How do many people build their lives on false religion today?

How will eternity collapse the house you build on sand?

2. The Cracking Foundations Of Houses Built On

Sand

What problems should be observed about building your life on wealth?

4. Building Your House On The Firm Foundation

How is Jesus Christ a firm foundation to build your life on?

What problems should be observed about building your life on pleasures?

How is the word of God a firm foundation to build your life on?

What problems should be observed about building your life on relationships?

What problems should be observed about building your life on earthly "wisdom"?