

The Rock on which to build your life

As Christians we agree that Jesus Christ is the Rock on which we should build our faith in order to be saved and go to heaven, but is He the rock on which I am supposed to build my day to day life. What does Jesus say?

*“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**” (Matt.7:24, my emphasis, NIV).*

*“The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, but it did not collapse because **its foundation was on the rock**” (Matt.7:25, my emphasis, ISV).*

The house which is mentioned in this parable cannot refer to our abode in heaven one day because there we will not experience adverse conditions like storms and strong winds! It must therefore refer to the life we are living right now and according to Jesus, the rock that must form the foundation of this “house” must be the **doing** of His words. This fact is often under-emphasized in evangelical preaching. Jesus is usually presented as the answer to all the problems experienced in this life and often disillusionment sets in when after He has been “accepted”, nothing much changes.

Conclusion

In the context of **Matt.5,6 and 7**, “*These words of mine*” that Jesus says that must be put into practice refer to His teachings that are found in what is popularly referred to as the Sermon on the Mount. The result of the fact that the words of Jesus are often ignored and sometimes blatantly disobeyed is seen especially in the area of relationships. We can conclude that many of our other problems may also be self inflicted because of our disobedience to the Word of God. Think, for example, how different things would be if the admonishment found in **Rom.12:9-21** was taken more seriously!

“...Excel at showing respect for each other...Bless those who persecute you...and never curse them... Cry with those who are crying. Live in harmony with each other. Do not be arrogant, but associate with humble people. Do not think that you are wiser than you really are. Do not pay anyone back evil for evil... If possible, so far as it depends on you, live in peace with all people. Do not take revenge... but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written, ‘Vengeance belongs to me. I will pay them back, declares the Lord.’ But ‘if your enemy is hungry, feed him. For if he is thirsty, give him a drink. If you do this, you will pile burning coals on his head.’ Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.”

In order to fulfil what God expects, we continually need to pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 1:8**).

“The Blood of Jesus makes heaven my home and doing His Word makes my home heavenly.”

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