

Luke Series #5

“Building On The Rock” - Luke 6:46-49

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Sand Castles

1. A few years ago, down at beach with family
 - a. watched while my son and another young boy built a sand castle
 - b. quite good; rather big, elaborate for their age
 - c. started well back from water and built a trench
 - d. but as the time went by, they lost track of where the water was
 - e. tide came slowly in
 - f. eventually, a big wave came rolling up and demolished their castle
2. Don't know if they still do; but every year, used to have sand sculpture contests down South
 - a. show on news
 - b. incredible sculptures, all done with simple sand and water
 - c. but like my son' sand castle, eventually they crumble in the onslaught of the waves
 - d. all that work, talent and time = dissolved in less than a minute

B. Today

1. As we come to Luke 6, Jesus has been traveling through Galilee
2. He has been teaching with authority
3. People amazed by what He said
 - a. and they loved to hear the new things He shared
 - b. but now He turns to them and He says,
 - c. “ There must be more than just hearing. There must also be doing!”

II. TEXT

A. V. 46

46 “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say?”

1. If we are going to be good bible students, then we need to consider our context
2. Jesus has been talking about false teachers and false followers
 - a. in vs. 39-42 He spoke about blind hypocrites
 - b. in vs. 43-45 He spoke about false professors; people who claimed to be one thing but were something else altogether
3. Now He turns to the crowd that has been following Him

- a. they have been listening to His teaching for days
- b. but now He utters a challenge to them
- c. “Why do you call me ‘Lord’ — but you do not obey Me?”
4. ‘Lord’ was a title of great respect
 - a. reserved only for the most honored
 - b. meant = ‘master’
 - so if ‘master’
 - right to tell you what to do
 - c. because of this, the Jews used it very sparingly
 - d. some not at all; a title reserved for God alone
5. To use the double epithet ‘Lord, LORD’ meant you were elevating someone to the place of God
 - a. they weren’t just ‘master’
 - b. they were the Master of all masters
6. Jesus is speaking not to His true followers, but to those who were merely tagging along
 - a. thrilled by Him
 - b. they were entertained by His message
 - they had itching ears; always wanting to hear something new
 - they enjoyed the show Jesus put on for them
 - c. they liked watching Him; He was amazing
 - always a thrill to see healing
 - always fun snacking on a miracle lunch
7. Jesus is not speaking here to struggling believers
 - a. He is not speaking to those who do own Him as Lord
 - b. but occasionally stumble and fall
 - c. he is speaking to those who only call Him ‘Lord’
 - d. they have no heart to obey
 - e. they have no struggle with obedience
 - f. because they don’t care about obedience
8. The point that Jesus is making is this: Words do not make the man - actions do
 - a. anyone can call Jesus ‘Lord’
 - b. but only those who believe Him Lord will obey Him
9. Just as there were many then who followed Jesus but did not really obey Him, so today, there are many who call themselves “Christians”
 - a. they go to church
 - b. they address Jesus as ‘Lord’
 - c. but they do not obey Him
10. It should come as no surprise to us that this problem of false professors should be so rampant today
 - a. 2 Tim 3:1-7

- 1 Know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:
 - now as I read this list, tell me if this doesn't sound like a description of our times
 - AS NEVER BEFORE in history . . .
- 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,
- 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
 - that's bad
 - but here is the clincher friends
 - the next verse is the thing that should shock us
- 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!
- 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,
- 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
 - b. as we read that list of evil, it's easy to think that we are reading about the people of the world
 - c. but then Paul turns the tables on us and says that these evil people will be religious people
 - d. they will wear the mask of Christianity
 - e. they'll even be zealous students
 - f. but their lives are corrupt
 - g. they are always learning but they never put it into practice
 - h. they say, "Lord, Lord" but they do not do what He says
11. Paul said this is the way it would be in the last days
 - a. so it should not surprise us when we see so many who call themselves believers but live wayward and disobedient lives
 - b. but it should motivate us to look closely at our own lives
 - c. make sure we are not just mouthing the word, "Lord"
 - d. we must make sure we are owning Him Lord

B. Vs. 47-49

47 "Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like:

48 “He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

49 “But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

1. Jesus presents two people
 - a. both are building a house to live in
 - b. both hear the words of Christ
 - c. but that is where their similarity ends
2. One man began his house by first digging deep
 - a. he knew that a strong house needed a good foundation
 - b. this is the starting place for any enduring building project = it must have a good foundation
3. The other man laid no foundation; he simply built on the sand
4. The difference between these two men and their houses is this:
 - a. while both men HEARD Jesus
 - b. only one did what Jesus said
 - c. the man who dug deep and built his house on the rock not only listened to Jesus, he did what Jesus said
 - d. the other man listened, but turned away and never put into practice what he had heard
5. Both men built houses
 - a. and for a while, it seemed the man who built without a foundation was in the better place
 - his house rose quickly
 - he was inside sitting down, watching the NBA playoffs and eating potato chips while the other guy was still putting up the siding
 - b. finally the man who built with the foundation finished; and both houses stood side by side
 - c. from outward appearances, there was little difference
 - d. but then winter came
 - the storms arrived and lashed both houses
 - the winds howled and the rain poured
 - the rivers swelled and overspilled their banks
 - e. and the house with no foundation was swept away like a sand castle at the beach
6. The storm Jesus spoke of is the normal times to trial that sweep through everyone's life
 - a. not matter who you are, life will bear it's difficulties
 - b. it is these trials that reveal what kind of people we really are

- c. they show us what we are building our lives on
7. Every day we live, we are building
 - a. every choice we make bears consequences with which we will have to live
 - b. every decision we make is another brick in the walls of our lives
 8. [Coral]
 - a. we're all familiar with coral; really we think of the shell they coral animal leaves behind
 - b. actually a small, soft animal
 - c. takes calcium carbonate out of the seawater and makes it into a protective shell = house
 - d. coral takes out of the medium of it's life that which becomes it dwelling place
 - e. even so, our deeds become our dwelling place
 9. The question for us is: What are we building with and what are we building on?
 10. Ex.: years ago, visiting big cities
 - a. walk through downtown
 - b. construction; panels with holes to watch
 - c. asked mother why such deep holes = to lay foundation
 - d. if you want to grow up in Christ, need to lay your foundation deep by not only listening but also doing what He says

C. *It's Harder*

1. There's no denying that obedience to the Lord is costly
2. The man who dug deep and laid his foundation on the rock had more work to do
3. And here lies the real difference between these two men
 - a. the guy who built a foundation looked to the future
 - b. he knew that one day storms would come and test his house
 - c. the other guy lived for the moment; his pleasure was more important than his security
4. When a kid in Seattle, neighbor brought home several refrigerator boxes
 - a. he gave them to the kids on the block
 - b. I grabbed one, took it home, cut out a couple windows and was done in a few minutes
 - c. my friends, took several boxes and over the next couple days proceeded to put them together in a whole complex of rooms
 - d. as soon as I was finished with my fort, I tried to get them to play war
 - e. but they weren't finished yet and said I'd have to wait
 - f. needless to say, when they were finally done, my fort looked pathetic next to theirs and they beat me easily

- g. I had had one thought in mind - get it done quick
 - h. they had another thought - get it done right
5. To live without obedience to Christ is to construct a refrigerator box and try to weather the storms of life
 6. Prov 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.
 7. We simply cannot live by our own wisdom and experience because we cannot see tomorrow
 - a. we do not know what's coming
 - b. we do not see all the hidden complications and factors that come to bear on our lives
 8. But God does see
 - a. He knows the end from the beginning
 - b. and when He speaks, His counsel and direction take all the unseen things into consideration
 - c. ex.: Story of Earl Weaver and Reggie Jackson
 - Weaver, manager of Baltimore Orioles
 - not allowed to steal without the signal called from dugout
 - Jackson stole second; proud
 - later Weaver chewed him out
 - next guy up strongest batter; with 1st open, they walked him
 - guy after that, weak hitter; so replaced with a pinch hitter
 - weakened the bench later in the game' they lost!!!
 - Jackson thought only of himself and the pitcher and catcher and that one part of one inning
 - Weaver considered the whole game; every player, from start to finish
 9. What is your life built on?
 - a. your own wisdom?
 - b. do you know better than God?
 - c. or are you built on the unshakable Rock of Jesus Christ?

III. CONCLUSION

A. Storms & Judgment

1. The storm that Jesus spoke of here referred to the normal trials of life
2. But one day another storm will shake the heavens and the earth
3. It is the storm of God's judgment
4. Everyone's life and foundation will be tried
5. Those who believe and demonstrate that faith by obedience will be safe
6. The rest will be eternally lost
7. Story of Entebbe

- a. July 1976, Israeli commandos raided airport at Entebbe, Uganda
 - b. in less than 15 minutes, 103 Jewish hostages freed and 7 terrorists dead
 - c. 3 of the hostages were killed during the raid, killed by the commandos
 - d. you see, when they first stormed the terminal, yelled out in Hebrew, "Get down"
 - e. Jews understood and dropped, leaving only terrorists who did not understand Hebrew standing
 - f. 2 hostages hesitated, and another man, wanting to see what would happen, dropped, then got back up
 - g. they were mowed down along with the 7 terrorists
8. Salvation is open to all
- a. but we must heed Christ's command to repent and make Him Lord
 - b. otherwise we will perish with the enemy

B.