

LIVING WISE IN 2025

Sunday, January 5, 2025 -- NEW YEAR msg -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

MATTHEW 7:24-27

Wise Man / Foolish Man

English Standard Version (ESV)

24 “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like **a wise man** who built his house on the rock. **25** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. **26** And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like **a foolish man** who built his house on the sand. **27** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

BACKGROUND and CONTEXT --

1) This illustrated spiritual reality is the conclusion of Jesus’s **SERMON ON THE MOUNT**.

- Jesus preaches this sermon at the beginning of his 3 year ministry before the cross
- This sermon reveals how God’s true people are to live in the present world.
- This sermon uses practical illustrations that the people could easily understand.
- Jesus is going after the heart, not just shallow religious living.
- Notice the ominous warnings that come just before the conclusion.

MATTHEW 7:15-23

15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **16** You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17** So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. **18** A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. **22** On that day **many** will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ **23** And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

TWO WARNINGS -- false prophets (vs 15-20) and fake followers (21-23).

ONE CONCLUSION -- HEAR and OBEY! (vs 24-27)

2) The **SERMON ON THE MOUNT** calls Christ’s true flock to follow the Good Shepherd in both word and deed.

3) The **SERMON ON THE MOUNT** gives great assurance of God’s tender care, answered prayer and REWARDS for obedience.

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OBSERVATIONS and APPLICATIONS for 2025 --

1) Notice the WISE MAN. vs 24-25

- The wise man HEARS the words of Christ.
- The wise man DOES the words of Christ.

JOHN 14:15-17

15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

JOHN 15:4-5

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

- The wise man withstands the deceptions, attacks and calamities of this life.
- ‘The house’ is your LIFE at home, at work/school, at leisure, at church.

2) Notice the FOOLISH MAN. vs 26-27

- The foolish man may HEAR the words of Christ.
- The foolish man DOES NOT DO the words of Christ.
- The foolish man has a hard life followed by an even worse eternity.
 - He hates himself. Proverbs 15:32
 - He is out of control. Proverbs 29:11
 - He despises wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7
 - He suffers harm. Proverbs 13:20
 - He ultimately rejects God. Psalms 14:1

FINAL APPLICATIONS:

- 1) Run to Christ -- **His words, His sacrifice** for His eternal life that starts **NOW**.
- 2) Evaluate in which areas you may be hearing but not doing the Words of Christ.
- 3) How might you deepen your CHURCH LIFE so it blesses yourself and others more? (being here more, building friendships, discipling, missions, actively serving, etc)