BUILT TO LAST

TEXT: Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:47-49

The Wise and Foolish Builders

Sometimes while you are so passionately busy building, there will be others as busy destroying. Do not stop. One day you will notice how high above you get, and how down below they end up – S. Elsayed

Eg. Jordan Springs East Development

God is in the business of building people's lives.

Building is not an event but a process, a long process.

Some principles that we need to consider:

1. Make God's Word the final authority in your life

Luke 6:48 - He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock.

We need to make the Word of God the basis of our decisions, that our decisions in life are founded in God's Word.

Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Isaiah 40:8 - *The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.*

Some foundational truths on which our faith and our lives can stand on:

- the way we conduct ourselves (What does the Bible say about how to live our lives?)

 Read Philippians 1:27
- the way we relate with other people (What does the Bible say about treating others?)

 Read Matthew 7:12
- the way we relate with our spouse (What does the Bible say about treating your spouse?)
 Read 1 Peter 3:7
- the way we relate with our kids (What does the Bible say about treating our kids?)
 Read Colossians 3:21 and Ephesians 6:4
- the way we handle our finances (What does the Bible say about finances?)
 Read Matthew 6: 19-21; Hebrews 13:5;
 Proverbs 3: 9-10; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38
- the way we handle our time (What does the Bible say about handling our time?)

Read Ephesians 5:16; Colossians 4:5

We are meant to follow what the WORD says and not what the WORLD says.

The written Word of God reveals His will and His eternal plan. Read *Jeremiah* 29:11

2. Read, study and get acquainted with His Word

2 Timothy 2:15 - Diligently study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of the truth;

We need to diligently read and study the Word of God. Not knowing the word will always lead us to error. Read *Matthew* 22:29

The key to know and experience God is to be acquainted with His Word.

John 1:1 - In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.

Diligently read and study His Word. This is how you build your life.

Let us condition our senses to know the truth.

3. Put it into practice

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Everything we learn from the Word of God is useless if we fail to put what we learn into practice.

Christianity is not the accumulation of knowledge but the application of knowledge.

James 1:22-25

- 22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
- 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror
- 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.
- 25 But whoever... continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

What Jesus is promising to those who are willing to live by His Word is not that they will never experience any storm.

Yes, the storms of life will come upon us, the rain will come, the wind will blow, the flood will rise and will try to drown us, yet we remain standing, unshaken, immovable, because we are founded on the Rock – JESUS CHRIST – THE LIVING WORD OF GOD.