

“Rock Solid”

(Luke 6:46-49)

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I. Introduction

A. People from my former church

1. Sara Watkins, Nickel Creek (hold up paper)
2. With Garrison Keillor

B. The call from a mom

1. Hold up article and explain
2. *“But he learned all of his AWANA verses and qualified for scholarship camp”*
 - a. Claimed to be a Christian
3. His brother...
4. What went wrong?
5. The problem of bad foundations

C. Visiting the Leaning Tower of Pisa

The tower was started in 1173 by the famous architect and builder, Bonano Pisano. He stopped work 12 years later in 1185 when the tower was only three and one-half floors high.

Ninety years later a second architect added three and one-half circular tiers. The tower was leaning when he started. He should have torn it down and started with the foundation. Instead he tried to fix the lean by straightening the upper tiers to make up for the tower’s slant.

Eighty years passed before a third architect put a domed eighth floor on the tower.

Scientists say that the foundation must be rebuilt, with the 14,500-ton tower held in place by some means. Unless this is done, they say, the 800-year-old tower will inevitably fall.

It is currently leaning 17 feet.

C. Everything depends on the foundation

1. Today, a look at your foundation

II. Review

A. The series on the Holy Spirit

1. *“Clothed with Power”*
 - a. Six-part series available
2. Pastor Dan’s series also available

B. Now, back to “the Sermon” in Luke 6

1. *“The Jesus Manifesto”*
2. A shocking sermon
3. The closing verses....why so important
4. Next week, “Running on Empty”

III. Text

A. Evidence of true salvation (v. 46)

1. The core issue of the Sermon on the Mount
2. Jesus is preaching to some very religious people
 - a. Most of the people of the world are “religious”
 - b. But not saved
3. These people even called Jesus “Lord” but refused to obey him

(46) Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I say? (47) I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice.

- a. Jesus wants “doers” and not just “hearers”

b. Is he talking to you?

4. Evidences of true followers of Christ

a. *They don't quit (John 8:31)*

(31) To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

b. *They do what God's Word says (James 1:22)*

(22) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

c. *They continue in the Faith (Colossians 1:23)*

(23) If you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven

d. *They keep His Commandments (I John 2:3-6)*

(3) We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. (4) The man who says "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. (5) But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: (6) Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus walked.

e. *Their actions mirror their talk (Titus 1:16)*

(16) They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

5. Obedience to God is evidence of a true believer

a. Obedience will not save you

b. However, if lacking....so is salvation

6. Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the German Church

a. His stand against Hitler's atrocities

b. The church refused to stand up and be counted

c. Talk was not enough

7. The day is coming in America

B. Checking your foundation (Luke 6:47-49)

1. The Wise Builder (v. 47-48)

(47) I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. (48) He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.

- a. Our trip to Nashville
 - 1. The incredible flooding of the Cumberland River
 - 2. The Opryland Hotel
 - 3. Couldn't believe water could be that high
- b. The house built on bedrock
 - 1. Rains descended
 - 2. Floods came
 - a. Ground can't absorb much
 - b. The Wadi
 - c. Dry river beds etc.
 - 3. It stood!

2. The Foolish Builder (v.49)

(49) But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.

- a. Built house upon the sand
 - 1. Sure is a lot quicker and easier
- b. But, when the storms hit...
 - 1. Rains descended in torrents

2. Floods came roaring out of the hills
- c. It fell!
 1. And it was completely destroyed

C. Purpose of the parable

1. Contrast between true and false religion
 - a. Talking to some very religious people
2. Contrast those who make it to Heaven and those to Hell
3. The saved and the unsaved

D. They often look very similar

1. Can't tell what went into the foundation
 - a. Stanford University (#4909)

In the quadrangle of Stanford University near San Francisco there stood a magnificent memorial arch, built so largely, solidly, and splendidly, it seems it would stand forever. But when the earthquake came, it collapsed in ruin. Its foundations were disclosed...the builder had put in chips and rubble.

2. Many lives look good but were never put on the firm foundation
3. Will be revealed in "that day"
 - a. Will check for foundations

E. Jesus is the only Rock

1. There is no other way to be saved
 - a. Islam will not save you
 - b. In Christ Alone!
2. The Bible is very clear
 - a. Acts 4:11-12

(11) He (Jesus) is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. (12) Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:11-12)

b. Ephesians 2:20

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. (Ephesians 2:20)

c. I Corinthians 3:11

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. (I Corinthians 3:11)

d. I Peter 2:6

See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. (I Peter 2:6)

F. The good foundation will not fail

1. I Corinthians 3:11-15

(11) For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. (12) If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, (13) his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. (14) If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. (15) If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

2. The foundation will not burn

a. Solid rock!

3. II Timothy 2:13

If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

G. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of your salvation

1. Ephesians 1:13-14

(13) And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy

Spirit, (14) who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

2. Explaining the “seal”

- a. Marking logs in the river
- b. The wax seal
 - 1. Hot wax and signet
 - 2. Only qualified dare break the seal
 - a. Daniel in the lion's den (Dan. 6:16-17)
 - b. Not even the king would break the seal!
- c. The earnest money
 - 1. Down payment on a car
- d. The engagement ring
 - 1. A promise

3. God the Holy Spirit is the “seal”

- a. Given to you at salvation
- b. He is in you
- c. An engagement ring

4. The Purpose of the Seal

a. Authenticity

- 1. The seal guarantees it is real
 - a. Rolex watches
- 2. You bear the seal of God
 - a. An authentic child of the King
- 3. The Holy Spirit is the seal

a. Goes wherever you go

b. Assurance

1. Promises to never leave you

2. Ephesians 4:30—***And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.***

3. II Corinthians 1:21-22

(21) Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, (22) set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. (II Corinthians 1:21-22)

4. If the assurance is missing

5. The Holy Spirit is referred to as “the engagement ring”

a. How I’ve been moved

b. We are the Bride of Christ

c. The implications are staggering

d. The church is his fiancé

7. We will reign with him after the wedding ceremony

8. This life is nothing more than preparation for what is to come

9. Sally Langerak

a. ALS

b. I Corinthians 2:9

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.

10. After Labor Day

c. Accomplishment

1. The transaction if completed
2. Your salvation is complete
 - a. Once and for all time
3. God chose you before the foundation of this world
 - a. Chose a bride for his son
 - b. Only creatures created in the image of God

d. Authority

1. Princess Diana's engagement to Prince Charles
 - a. Where ever she went
 2. You bear incredible authority
 - a. Bear an engagement ring
 3. Satan sees the ring on you
 - a. Walk tall and proud
 - b. Attempt and expect great things
 4. Let him fill you
 5. Your vision...service
 6. The priority of service
 - a. If it is inconvenient, it's probably important
5. Your inheritance
- a. Ephesians 1:13-14

Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, (14) who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

- b. After Labor Day

6. The Holy Spirit is a sample of what is to come
 - a. Down payment
 - b. We are His “bride”
 1. The ring proves it
 2. Girls showing off their rings
 - c. Wear it until the “redemption of the purchased possession”
 1. The marriage ceremony
7. The purpose of the engagement period
 - a. After Labor day
 - c. When a “disciple” hides the ring

IV. Summary

A. Everybody fits into one of four categories

1. Bad Foundation.....Non-believers
 - a. Bad building
 - b. Attractive building
 - a. Moral and religious
2. Good Foundation.....True believers
 - a. Bad building
 1. You’ve got a foundation designed for a mansion
 2. Don’t build a shack
 3. Let Him build a glorious dwelling
 - b. Attractive building

B. Facing the building inspector

1. The Judgment Seat of Christ
 - a. Those on the rock
 - b. The saved
 - c. May lose a lot of wood, hay, and stubble
 - d. But never the foundation!

2. The Great White Throne of Judgment
 - a. Those on the sand
 - b. The unsaved
 - c. The whole thing will wash away
 - d. Including some great looking houses
 - e. Built on sand!

C. Check your foundation

Closing song....“In Christ Alone...on Christ the Solid rock I stand...”