

**October 22, 2020**

Today's words of challenge for you.

Upon what do we build our lives? What is the driving force undergirding the things we do? Every person has some form of ethic or morality upon which they build their lives. This ethic or morality is often expressed in some form of philosophy or creed that summarizes what a person believes to be true. Christians are no different in this regard. The real question for Christians is, "What is it we have built our lives upon?" Read with me Luke 6:46-49.

*46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."*

What is the foundation of your life? God is the foundation of all life and the foundation of all creation. Nehemiah prays, "Thou alone art the Lord. Thou hast made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. Thou dost give life to all of them and the heavenly host bows down before Thee" (Nehemiah 9:6). Moreover, Paul writes, "... There is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him" (1 Corinthians 8:6).

Therefore we know beyond all doubt Jesus is the foundation for life and for living. John writing about Jesus explains, “All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being. In Him is life, and the life is the light of people” (John 1:3-4).

The author of Hebrews declares, “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (Hebrews 1:1-3). This is the foundation for all that there is. This foundation is Jesus. For the Christian this means that everything that we do is based upon and in God’s revelation of Himself to us.

So, why don’t Christians build or live in obedience to the foundation that is Jesus? Jesus asks all believers, “Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

How can we, who are Christians, say with integrity that Jesus is our Lord if we will not live in obedience to Him? The truth is that we cannot say Jesus is Lord if we do not do what He commands us. The reality is if we do not do what our Lord commands then we are living in rebellion. Proof, yet again, that we need a Savior. Notice in our passage there are two types of people: those who come, hear and act accordingly, and those who come and hear but fail to act accordingly.

Let’s look at these two types of people in reverse order. First, look at the disobedient people. They come to Jesus; they hear Jesus’ words; however, they do not act upon Jesus’ teachings in an appropriate way.

Many people hear Jesus' words everyday. Sadly, many of these people will reject Jesus and live the remainder of their lives on earth in rebellion against God. Their eternity will be in hell separated from God. But, "What about those who have never heard anything about Jesus?" some may ask. In Romans we read that God is evident to all creation for His eternal power and divine attributes are on display therefore anyone who rejects Jesus has no excuse (See Romans 1:18-20).

The obedient people have a different response to Jesus' words. They also come to Jesus. They also hear Jesus' words. The difference is they act upon what is heard in an appropriate way. That is they apply Jesus' words to their lives.

Which one of these two types of people best describes you? Are you living in rebellion or are you living in obedience to the words of our Savior and Lord? Pray with me.

*Gracious Lord and Savior, we are thankful that You have given us the gift of life and forgiveness of sin. We pray now that all who read these words will turn to Jesus and accept Your gift of grace. In Jesus name we give You thanks for answering all of our prayers, amen.*

There will come a day when every person will call Jesus "Lord" but, you can only call Jesus "Savior" before your physical life comes to an end. Call on Jesus now for salvation.

Until the nets are full