



“JESUS, THE TEACHER”

Matthew 7:24-29

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“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

“Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned--put together--have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one, solitary life.”

From the poem One Solitary Life
*Attributed to James Allen Francis

JOHN 21: 25

“Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.”

“God is not so much interested in getting us out of hell and into heaven as He is in getting Himself into us on earth – that His will be done on earth, as in heaven!”

Rev. Bill Iverson

**A PAST PERSPECTIVE: “For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son”
Romans 8:29**

A PRESENT PERSPECTIVE: “And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image... 2 Corinthians 3:18

A FUTURE PERSPECTIVE: But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him.... 1 John 3:2

“Jesus is the wisest person who ever lived. He always has the best information on everything. One of the greatest gifts Jesus has given us is his teaching and it is imperative that we submit and allow Him to teach us how to live as a disciple – how to live the ‘good life’ – the Kingdom Life.”

Dallas Willard, The Divine Conspiracy

A close-up photograph of a person's hands building a brick wall. The person is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and a gold ring on their left hand. They are using a trowel to apply grey mortar to the joints of red bricks. The background is dark and out of focus, showing a hint of a blue sky.

SIMILARITY # 1:

**Both men build houses –
everyone is in the process of
building a life.**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands building a brick wall. The person is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and a gold ring on their left hand. They are using a metal trowel to apply grey mortar to the joints of red bricks. The bricks are laid in a running bond pattern. The background is blurred, showing a blue sky and some greenery.

SIMILARITY # 2:

Both the wise and the foolish are responsible for what they build – for what they build on and what they build with.

“To live is to choose. It is through the making of successive and resolute decisions that we trace out our lives.”

Paul Tournier, The Meaning of Persons

A dramatic, high-contrast photograph of a stormy sea under a dark, heavy sky. The water is dark blue-green with white-capped waves breaking. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, with a small patch of lighter clouds near the top center. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

SIMILARITY # 3:
Everyone encounters storms.

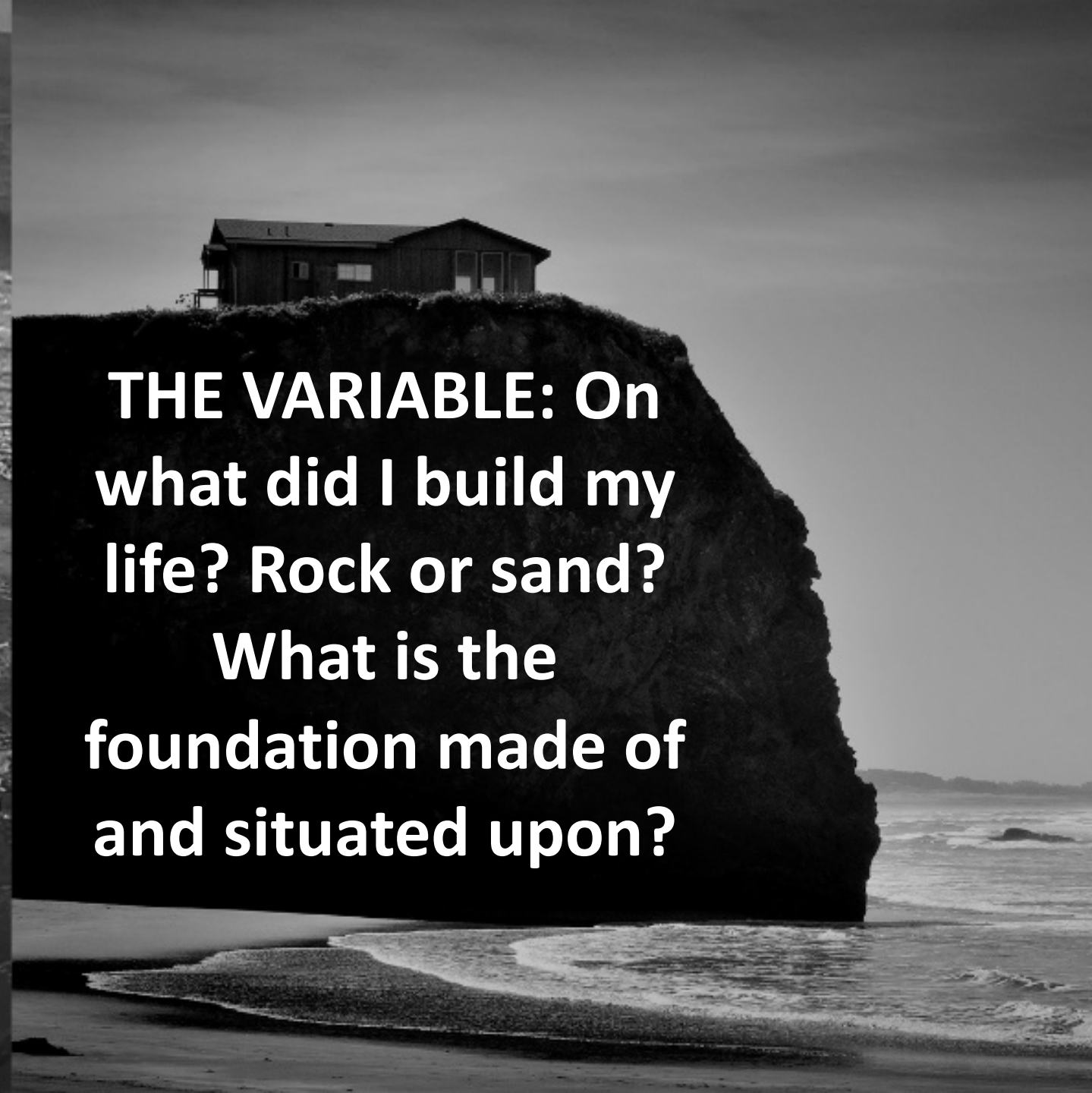
A dramatic background image of a stormy ocean with dark, turbulent waves and a heavy, dark sky with swirling clouds. The text is overlaid in the center.

SIMILARITY # 4:

It is in the midst of the storm that the soundness – the quality – of what we have built is revealed.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”



**THE VARIABLE: On
what did I build my
life? Rock or sand?
What is the
foundation made of
and situated upon?**

JOHN 8:31, 32

Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

“As I have loved you so you must love one another.”

“I have set you an example that you should do as I have done.”

“You cannot serve two masters.”

“As you do it unto the least of these you do it unto me.”

“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

“Follow me and I will make you a fisher of men.”

“Store your treasure in heaven.”

“Forgive as you have been forgiven.”

“Seek first the kingdom of God.”

“Don’t worry about tomorrow.”

“Come unto me...take my yoke...learn from me.”

“Abide in me.”

“This teaching of Jesus is one of the severest parables in the entire Bible. The summons here is not simply to “accept Jesus” or “believe in Jesus”, the summons is to do what He teaches!”

**Scot McKnight in his commentary
on the Sermon on the Mount**