

Building on the Right Foundation

By Dale D. Robins

"For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" -- I Cor. 3:13

Many folks are totally unfamiliar with agriculture or the construction trades and do not understand nor appreciate many of the illustrations used in the Scriptures to teach spiritual concepts. Construction of any long standing structure involves the laying of a solid foundation. Buildings are not just framed on the dirt with an expectation of that building staying intact. The ground will shift and swell, and the strain placed on the framing will soon begin to break it apart. Without being anchored to a foundation, strong winds can actually push the structure and hasten its collapse. Jesus used the importance of having a solid foundation in His Parable of the Wise Man Who Build His House Upon a Rock (Matt. 7:24-27). Jesus was teaching that *"whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."* The solid foundation held the building together even when stressed by severe storms. We can weather the storms of this life, if we listen and follow the teachings of Jesus. The foolish man built his house on the sand without a foundation. In other words, those who hear but do not obey the teachings of Jesus will see their houses collapse under stress and pressure. The foundation is key.

In spiritual affairs Jesus is our foundation. Our entire belief system is built upon Him and His instructions as revealed in the New Testament. Other world religions have chosen to build on other foundations which, in reality, is building on no foundation at all. The writings of Mohammad, those associated with Hinduism and Buddhism, or various New Age philosophies are to be rejected. As Paul said, *"For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ"* (I Cor. 3:13). He is our only hope for eternal salvation – *"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"* (Acts 4:12).

Our young people are being exposed to these world religions with the expectation that they accept or tolerate all these points of view as legitimate. To reject them is to be judgmental and intolerant. We must be the influential voices reminding them, *"And ye shall know **the** truth, and **the** truth shall make you free"* (Jn. 8:32). It is not "your truth" versus "my truth." We are to embrace THE truth! Build on the right foundation!