

September Teaching Theme: The Sermon on the Mount

讲员 Speaker: Pastor William R. Horne & Pastor Linghui Peter Tian

题目 Topic: The Wise & Foolish Builder

经文 Scripture: Matthew 7:24-29

Monthly Theme: We are on week 15 of 15 in our series walking through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5-7. The "Sermon on the Mount" is a comprehensive sketch of Jesus' moral and ethical vision, forming a manifesto by which the Jesus community should live. Matthew opens up this section with Jesus "**going up on a mountainside,**" presenting Jesus as a New Moses figure, bringing the Torah to its fulfillment. Throughout this series, Jesus' words will often challenge the very way we think about God, ourselves, and others. Let's accept that challenge over the next four months. This week, we are examining Matthew 7:24-29, where Jesus begins wrapping up his sermon with a clear call for us to put his teaching in the Sermon on the Mount into practice. Those who put Jesus' words into action and live into the Kingdom reality will still be standings when the storms come.

九月 **September** - 登山寶訓系列 **The Sermon on the Mount Series**

September 5th – 假先知與真門徒 False Prophets & True Disciples (Matthew 7:13-23)

September 12th – 聰明的匠人與愚卓的匠人 The Wise & Foolish Builder (Matthew 7:24-29)

September 19th – 做門徒的代價 The Cost of Discipleship (Luke 9:21-27; Mark 8:34-9:1)

September 26th – 因款待客旅而遇見耶穌 Jesus Revealed in Hospitality to a Stranger (Luke 24:13- 35)

Resources:

[Sermon Video \(English Service\)](#) [Sermon starts at 34:47]

[Sermon Slides \(English Service\)](#)

[Sermon Video \(Chinese Service\)](#) [Sermon starts at 22:43] [Sorry, Audio is Not Clear :(]

[Sermon Slides \(Chinese Service\)](#)

Discussion Questions (Pastor William R. Horne/Pastor Linghui Peter Tian):

- (1) Read Matthew 7:24-29 together. What observations do you make, and what stands out to you? How would you summarize Jesus teaching here?
- (2) 聪明与无知盖房者的相同之处是什么？What are the similarities between wise and foolish house builders? 聪明与无知盖房者不同之处是什么？What is the difference between wise and foolish housebuilders?
- (3) No one intentionally builds their life on sand, but so many still do. How/Why do so many well-intentioned people end up in a place where their lives collapse in the storm?
- (4) Jesus makes a clear call for us to hear his words and do them. So what keeps us from hearing and obeying the words of Jesus?
- (5) Re-read Matthew 7:28-29. What does the crowd's reaction to the sermon tell us about Jesus?
- (6) 主耶稣在太5-7章所分享登山宝训的信息，日常生活中，我们是否做得到？如果可以，请分享你过去的一个经历。The message of the Sermon on the Mount shared by the Lord Jesus in Matt. 5-7, can we do it in our daily lives? If possible, please share one of your

past experiences. Then, as you reflect on the whole Sermon on the Mount, what parts of the sermon are most significant to you, and what parts of the sermon do you find most challenging?

Important Notes (Pastor William R. Horne):

Notes on Q1 & Q2: Important Bible Study Questions to ask: I. What is the word “Therefore” referring back to, and what are “these words of mine”? II. In the parable: (1) What are the builders/houses referring to? (2) What is the storm? (3) What is the foundation?

- I. “Therefore” links us back first to the entire Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and secondarily to Jesus’ closing set of twos (Matthew 7:13-23), dealing with “entering the Kingdom of God.” This tells us that “these words of mine” refers to all of Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 5-7.
- II. The parable uses the builders to show two types of responses to Jesus’ teaching - one hears the words and does NOT practice them, and the other hears Jesus’ teaching and puts them into practice. (1) The builders refer to us (humanity), and the house is the life that we are building. (2) The storm in Jesus’ parable, I believe, carries two referents: First and primarily, the storm of “final judgment” when Jesus will return to make all things right. Secondarily, the storm can reference “the storms of life” that we all face. Suffering, trials, and hardships will reveal the foundation we have built our life upon.

Now, as far as we can tell, both of these builders are of equal architectural skill. Both builders are building similar houses from the same materials, maybe even the same supplier. Presumably, they also live in the same metropolitan area as they are both hit by the same storm.

After both builders have completed their houses, from the ground up, both houses look beautiful. Both have the best hardwood floors, the granite countertop, and stainless steel appliances with all the newest technology. As far as the eye can see, two state-of-the-art homes from accomplished and competent builders. Both builders can reach the top of luxury and beauty in their homes, but when the storm comes - one house stood, and one fell with “a great crash.” The key difference is their foundation.

Notes on Q3: We have believed narrative about other “foundational” things bringing us “true life.” We must have the wisdom to question these narratives and look where they actually lead. We can build our lives on wealth, success, acclaim, “good behavior,” our family unit, control, etc. But, these things will not ultimately bring life. Often, we do not set out to build our lives on these things, but we have passively absorbed these stories and are internally shaped by them. This reality is why it is critical to regularly reflect on what life our everyday activities are building and make adjustments to ensure we are building our life upon the proper foundation and values.

Notes on Q4: I (Pastor Will) believe we often do not practice the teachings of Jesus because we fail to grasp two things: (1) the beauty of Jesus Kingdom vision we are invited into, and (2) the transforming power of the Holy Spirit as we walk in a relationship with God. Many of us are caught in this endless loop of trying to do Jesus things in our own power, failing and feeling guilty, and then trying harder. The cycle keeps repeating. But, the Gospel says we have been

freed from guilt and condemnation through Jesus. As we grow in trust in King Jesus, we are further freed from the weight of guilt/shame and liberated through the Holy Spirit to follow his/her transforming guidance and conviction. Again, this is the beauty of it all - there is a big compelling vision of the world that we are empowered to live out through the Holy Spirit, not in/on our own strength. God's grace grants us the power for change.

Notes on Q5: The key to this passage is the idea that Jesus "taught as one who had authority." Jesus was different because he revealed that he was more than a teacher or a prophet in both the content and delivery of his teaching. At this point, the crowd and disciples could quite put their finger on it, but we know that Jesus is later fully revealed as both Divine (God) and the long-awaited Messiah (Christ).

Unlike today, originality was not valued or held in high esteem during Jesus' time, and thus it was important for other teachers of the law to appeal to and cite older authorities if one wished to have a hearing. (Now, this is not a bad thing - in fact, we probably need more of this in our time and context, where originality is the only thing valued.) But, where others in Jesus' time appealed to authorities, Jesus simply said, "I say unto you." "I say unto you." And that is the good news - that Jesus didn't have to appeal to authority because he was, is, and will forever be the authority.

Notes on Q6: Just to help you all recall everything we have looked at in the Sermon on the Mount:

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)

Jesus Fulfillment of the Law (Matthew 5:17-20)

Murder & Anger (Matthew 5:21-26)

Non-Violent, Enemy Love (Matthew 5:38-48)

Adultery, Lust, Divorce (Matthew 5:27-32)

Your Word [Oath Taking] (Matthew 5:33-37)

True Generosity (Matthew 6:1-4)

Prayer & Fasting (Matthew 6:5-18)

God or Money? (Matthew 6:19-24)

Scarcity or Abundance? (Matthew 6:25-34)

Judgment & Hypocrisy (Matthew 7:1-6)

The Generous God & The Golden Rule (Matthew 7:7-12)

False Prophets & True Disciples (Matthew 7:13-23)

The Wise & Foolish Builder (Matthew 7:24-29)

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin of Chinese Service Sermon):

聪明的匠人和愚昧的盖房着

田传道。9/12/21

"「所以，凡听见我这话就去行的，好比一个聪明人，把房子盖在磐石上；雨淋，水冲，风吹，撞着那房子，房子总不倒塌，因为根基立在磐石上。凡听见我这话不去行的，好比一个无知的人，把房子

盖在沙土上；雨淋，水冲，风吹，撞着那房子，房子就倒塌了，并且倒塌得很大。」耶稣讲完了这些话，众人都希奇他的教训；因为他教训他们，正像有权柄的人，不像他们的文士。”

马太福音 7:24-29

基督徒：生命更新的人，生命影响力的人，生活有见证的人。

二种人

一，聪明与愚昧者相同点

1, 都听见主的教训，都知道了。听到同样的信息。

2, 都有行动，两者都在盖房-行动

太4:23-25：“耶稣走遍加利利，在各会堂里教训人，传天国的福音，医治百姓各样的病症。他的名声就传遍了叙利亚。那里的人把一切害病的，就是害各样疾病、各样疼痛的和被鬼附的、癫痫的、瘫痪的，都带了来，耶稣就治好了他们。当下，有许多人从加利利、低加坡里、耶路撒冷、犹太、约旦河外来跟着他。”

“耶稣看见这许多的人，就上了山，既已坐下，门徒到他跟前来，他就开口教训他们，说：“马太福音 5:1-2

3, 盖的房子遇上考验，雨淋，水冲，风吹。信和不信都会受到考验。信心受到试炼。

二，两者不同

1, 根基不同，盖在磐石上，信主的话就要有行动，不传话，不做神不喜欢的事。聪明人是寻求神而来。从需求转到追求神。

盖在沙土上，信心是有条件的，满足自己的需求。来教会为见朋友，吃午饭……愚昧人不是真正的追求神来。

2, 最终结果也不同，听道不行道最后得不到神。

乐乐的30岁年青去世见证视频。孩子永远会在神的怀抱。

三，基督徒遵行主道的力量源泉

耶稣讲完了这些话，众人都希奇他的教训；因为他教训他们，正像有权柄的人，不像他们的文士。”

神的话有能力。神帮助活出一个属神的道路。

聪明人，在困境中与神同在。

遇昧人，经考验时而跌到。