**Effectual Doer of the Word**

*Matthew 7:1-29*

**Context**

Matthew 5-7 is what is often times referred to as ”The Beatitudes” or the “Sermon on the Mount” because of its location He concludes the message with a parable of two builders and an emphasis on hearing and doing. Acting on the Word of God is paramount to what it means to be a genuine believer (Luke 6:46; James 1:22-25; 2:26).

**James 1:25**—*But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.*

3 principles to building wisely

**I. Hearing and acting**

**Matthew 7:24***—Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.*

**Matthew 7:26***—Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.*

A. Matthew’s focus is on the Kingdom

1. Jesus is the Messianic King

**Matthew 1:1***—The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham*

2. Jesus references the features of the Kingdom

**Matthew 5:3-6***—Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* ***4****Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.* ***5****Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.* ***6****Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*

**Matthew 5:20***—For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.*

B. Jesus’ focus is on validating our faith

**John 6:35**—*Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.*

**Luke 6:46**—*Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?*

**II. Acting and wisdom**

A. Building on the Rock (Christ)

**Psalm 118:22**—*The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief corner stone.*

**Psalm 40:1-3***—I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay, and He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many will see and fear and will trust in the Lord.*

**Romans 9*:33****—just as it is written, “Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, And he who believes in Him will not be [*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=rom+9%3A33&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28189a)*]disappointed.”*

**Colossians 1:13-14***—For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

B. Building on His Word (Scripture)

**Matthew 7:24***—Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.*

**Matthew 7:26***—Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.*

**James 1:22-25***—But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.*

**Luke 11:28***—*But He said, “On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it.”

**2 Samuel 2*:30****—Therefore the Lord God of Israel declares, ‘I did indeed say that your house and the house of your father should walk before Me forever’; but now the Lord declares, ‘Far be it from Me—for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me will be lightly esteemed.’*

**Luke 6:49**—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 [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luk+6%3A49&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25196a)]torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.

**III. Rain, floods and winds**

A. What are they?

1. Temptations

**1 John 2:16**—*For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.*

**1 Corinthians 1:13**—*No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

2. Trials

**1 Peter 4:12-14**—*Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;* ***13****but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.* ***14****If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.*

3. Death

**Hebrews 9:27-28**—*And inasmuch as it is [*[*y*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30133y)*]appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,* ***28****so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.*

4. Judgment rain of trial

**Matthew 7:25***—And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.*

**Matthew 7:27***—The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall*

B*. How to overcome*

**John 16:33**—*These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.*

**Romans 12:21**—*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

**1 John 5:4**—*For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.*