

Time Audit Chronicles: Wise and Foolish Builders – Build Your Life on Jesus’ Teachings

(Matthew 7:24-27)

Prologue: A Foundation That Lasts

The Presswood family had gathered in the backyard to work on a new treehouse for Ariel and Alice. Ryan carefully laid out plans on the picnic table while Ariel measured planks of wood, and Alice supervised from her “construction chair” with Mr. Fluffernutter perched on her lap.

“Daddy,” Ariel said, pointing to the diagram, “why do we have to dig so deep for the supports? Can’t we just start building?”

Ryan smiled as he marked a spot on the ground for digging. “The foundation is the most important part, Ariel. If we don’t build it strong and steady, the whole thing could fall apart.”

Alice’s eyes widened. “Even if it looks pretty on top?”

“Even then,” Ryan replied. “And that’s exactly what Jesus taught about life. He used the example of two builders—one wise and one foolish—to show how important it is to build our lives on a strong foundation.”

“What foundation did He mean?” Ariel asked, intrigued.

“His teachings,” Ryan said. “Jesus said that living according to His words is like building on solid rock.”

“Can we see it?” Alice asked, her excitement bubbling over.

Ryan grinned. “Let’s visit the Time Audit Machine and learn straight from the Master Builder Himself.”

The Journey Begins: Two Builders

The Time Audit Machine glowed warmly as Ariel adjusted the controls.

“Destination: Galilean hillside, 27-29 CE. Objective: hear Jesus’ parable of the wise and foolish builders.”

With a familiar flash of light, the family found themselves seated on the hillside amidst a crowd of listeners. The sun cast a golden glow over the grass, and the air smelled faintly of wildflowers. At the top of the hill, Jesus stood, His voice calm yet filled with authority.

“There He is,” Ryan said, gesturing. “Let’s hear His story.”

The Teaching: Building on the Rock

Jesus addressed the crowd, His tone measured and engaging:

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.” (Matthew 7:24-25)

Ariel scribbled in her notebook. “So, the wise man built on something solid so his house could survive storms?”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “The rock represents Jesus’ teachings. When we live by His words, our lives can withstand life’s challenges.”

The Foolish Builder

Jesus continued, His voice tinged with warning:

“And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.” (Matthew 7:26-27)

Alice wrinkled her nose. “Why would someone build on sand? That’s silly!”

“Because it’s easier,” Ryan explained. “Building on rock takes more work, but it’s worth it in the end. Sand might seem fine at first, but it can’t hold up when storms come.”

“So, the sand is like ignoring what Jesus says?” Ariel asked.

“Exactly,” Ryan replied. “Living apart from His teachings might feel easy at first, but it won’t give us the strength we need when life gets tough.”

An Illustration in Action

The Presswoods noticed two small homes in the distance, part of a reenactment some followers were creating. One was perched on a rocky outcrop, sturdy and strong, while the other stood on a sandy riverbank.

As they watched, a sudden downpour arrived, and the waters began to rise. The house on the sand swayed and crumbled, its beams tumbling into the rushing current. But the house on the rock stood firm, unshaken by the storm.

“That’s exactly what Jesus meant,” Ryan said, pointing to the scene. “The storms are like the challenges we face in life—loss, fear, hardship. When our lives are built on Jesus’ teachings, we can stand strong no matter what comes.”

Ariel scribbled furiously. “So, His words aren’t just advice—they’re what hold us together.”

“Right,” Ryan said. “They’re the foundation we need to build our lives on.”

The Crowd’s Reaction

As Jesus finished His teaching, the crowd murmured in awe. His authority was unmistakable, and many began discussing how to put His words into practice.

“It’s not just about hearing Him,” Ryan said. “It’s about doing what He says.”

Alice tilted her head. “Do you think we can build on rock too?”

“Absolutely,” Ryan replied. “Every time we follow Jesus’ teachings—loving others, forgiving, trusting God—we’re building a strong foundation.”

Returning Home: Building on Rock

Back in the garage, the Time Audit Machine powered down, leaving the family quiet and reflective. Ariel flipped through her notes, while Alice adjusted Mr. Fluffernutter’s imaginary construction helmet.

“Building on rock takes more work,” Ariel said thoughtfully. “But it’s the only way to make sure our lives stay steady.”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “When we follow Jesus, we’re building something that can stand through anything.”

Alice grinned. “I think Mr. Fluffernutter wants to build his house on rock too!”

“Good choice,” Ryan said with a chuckle. “It’s the only foundation worth building on.”

Reflection: A Foundation That Endures

That evening, Ariel read aloud from Matthew 7:

“‘Therefore 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 family sat quietly, reflecting on the importance of building their lives on something solid and eternal.

“Jesus isn’t just giving us advice,” Ryan said. “He’s giving us the foundation we need to live the life God designed for us.”

“And when we build on Him,” Ariel added, “we’re ready for any storm.”

Alice held up Mr. Fluffernutter proudly. “I think Jesus is the best rock ever!”

“And the most dependable,” Ryan said with a grin.

Takeaway: Building Wisely

The parable of the wise and foolish builders reminds us that life’s storms are inevitable, but we can endure them by building on the firm foundation of Jesus’ teachings. When we hear His words and put them into practice, we create a life that stands strong through challenges, reflecting His love and wisdom to the world. Jesus invites us to build on the rock of His truth—because only a life grounded in Him will last forever.