

# Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter

*Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ*

August 5, 2017

## THE SURE FOUNDATION

*Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"* Luke 6:46. What is your answer to this question asked by Jesus? Some may say "I try to do the things Jesus said to do, but they are too difficult to do." Another may answer "I really want to do what Jesus said, but sin just seems to rise up and overcome me."

It is important to see that Jesus did not ask "Why do you not want to do the things which I say." Many people want to live for God, but find it too difficult when the storms of life come against them. They are like Paul who recounts his attempt to serve God under the Law before he came to Christ. He said, *"For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do."* Romans 7:19. A person in such a struggle to keep the sayings of Christ, usually does not have an answer as to why they do not keep his sayings. They just know that despite all their good intentions and efforts, when they are put to the test ...they fail.

Jesus actually answered this question for us all. He said, *"But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great."* Luke 6:49. The reason someone falls when the storms and floods of life come against their experience is not because they do not attempt to keep his words,

rather they are unable to keep his words because their spiritual house does not have a foundation.

It may shock some to hear that someone can receive Christ, be baptized in the Spirit of God, and even be called into the ministry, yet never have the foundation which Jesus spoke of. This is the reason so many sincere Christian people fall by the wayside, end up in sin, and ultimately lose their own soul. They never found anything to build their spiritual house upon that would stand the storms of time. This happens so often that it seems to give credence to the fallacy which says "though saved, we are still all sinners."

Jesus tells us there is a reason one person does his sayings while another does not. He said, "*Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.*" Luke 6:47-48. The difference between the one who "does his sayings" and the one who "does not his sayings" is not how much effort or determination they put into it. When the storm arises it could be said that both houses are "determined" to stand, but the house that is not built upon the rock will ultimately fall.

The gospel foundation the church is built upon, and the gospel foundation each individual in the church must be built upon is revealed in the words of Peter to Jesus: "*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" Matthew 16:16. Jesus said of this revelation "...*UPON THIS ROCK I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail*

*against it.*" Matthew 16:18. Paul confirms this as the only foundation saying, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus (The) Christ." I Corinthians 3:11. The revelation of what it means, that Jesus is "...the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world" John 11:27, IS the foundation, that if built upon, will stand against and overcome every storm, flood, or test that may arise. This revelation is the truth which Jesus said "shall make you free." John 8:32.