

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



The Power of Choice

1. Everyone is building something. At the very least you are building a life, maybe a career or family.
2. Throughout life you may build a house, business, or numerous other project.
3. We are all building our future.
4. Jesus gives three examples and lessons on how to build a great life and a guaranteed future.

Example one—The two roads

Matthew 7:13-14 ¹³ *“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.* ¹⁴ *For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

1. Jesus gives instruction before he presents the options. “Enter by the narrow gate”
2. Every road leads to a specific destination. DIRECTION DETERMINES DESTINATION.
3. Success in life is found on the untraveled road.
4. God allows u-turns.
5. Make sure you are on the right road, following Jesus all the way thru life.

Example two—The two trees

Matthew 7:15-23 ¹⁵ *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.* ¹⁶ *You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?* ¹⁷ *So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.* ¹⁸ *A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.* ¹⁹ *Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.* ²⁰ *Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.* ²¹ *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.* ²² *On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’* ²³ *And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’*

1. We are commanded to beware. Find the balance between gullible and suspicious.
2. Not all appearances are accurate.
3. Examine the fruit of a person’s life to determine the root of their life.
4. Especially do this in your own life.

5. Right words and actions fall short of having the right heart.

Example three—The two houses

Matthew 7:24-27 (ESV) ²⁴ *“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”*

1. Storms come to all people.
2. You can't avoid storms of life but you can overcome them.
3. The quality of your foundation determines the strength of your stability.
4. If our foundation is weak you will suffer great loss.
5. The key is to listen to God's Word and obey Him completely.

Faith in Jesus brings transformation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*