Everyday Ethics #20 Pastor Rick Baker

September 4 2022

**Interested or Practising?**

(Matt. 7:24-27)

*It belongs to great pride that persons prefer their own opinion to divinely revealed truth. -* Aquinas

**By Whose Authority?**

*“...unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”* (5:20)

*“...the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority,* and not as their teachers of the law.” (7:28,29)

**Therefore...**

Broad road culture-lovers hoping for narrow road rewards (7:13-14)

Deceived by appearances (7:15-20)

Deceived by activities (7:21-23)

*Deceived by apparent interest* (7:24-27)

***What life are you hoping to build?***

**1.Two kinds of people/**same knowledge

Wise

Foolish

**2.Two types of lives/**same beatings

Rain—common challenges

Streams/Flood—worldly pressure

Wind—satanic beatings

One that withstands the beatings

One that falls with a great crash

**3.Two kinds of foundations/**similar houses

Rock

Sand

*“For no one can lay any* ***foundation*** *other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* (1 Cor. 3:11)

*“Nevertheless, God’s solid* ***foundation*** *stands firm, sealed with this inscription: ‘The Lord knows those who are his’ and ‘Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.’”* (2 Tim. 2:19)

**To Build Right You Need to Know How...**

You must hear—many people don’t know what God says about things.

Put into practice what you hear—right away or you will forget, avoid, procrastinate.

**How Can You Be Confident?**

* We do/want to do what Jesus teaches.
* We don’t reject, rebel, ignore, explain away, resent.
* We actually build everything about our lives to make the do/don’t more likely.
* We avoid renovations/”add-ons” to our house that will make obeying the Sermon on the Mount lifestyle a struggle and a conflict—we are careful about the building materials.
* We urgently move beyond religious activities-only, to really valuing Jesus as someone very special to our heart—not just a model or example, but a real person who we desire to encounter and experience through the Holy Spirit.