

January 20, 2016
“Helpless to Hopeful”
Malcolm Marshall

Luke 6:46-49 – “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and don’t do the things I say? I will show you what someone is like who comes to Me, hears My words, and acts on them: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. When the flood came, the river crashed against that house and couldn’t shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The river crashed against it, and immediately it collapsed. And the destruction of that house was great!” (HCSB)

I. Calling Him “Lord, Lord”, which means “Master of all Masters”, shows great respect, but when these same people ignore His teaching, it shows their hypocrisy because their words & actions are out of alignment. To call Him ‘Lord, Lord’ and then to not do what He says is absurdly contradictory.

II. Comes to me = Humility

C.S. Lewis is quoted as having said “True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.”

What determines humility is attitude, and that’s something we can control. (James 4:6)

Today, will you be exalted because of your humility or humbled because of your hypocrisy? (Matthew 23:3-8, 11-12)

- a) Humble people are hopeful people when they ask for help.**
- b) Humble people are hopeful people when they can admit they’re wrong.**
- c) Humble people are hopeful people when they liberally give encouragement to others.**

III. Listens to my teaching = Takes heed

Hearing & listening are not synonyms. Simply hearing something requires no personal investment. Listening does require personal investment.

When you fail to understand the difference between hearing and listening, you run the risk of becoming a Me Monster!! (BEWARE OF THE ME MONSTERS!)

IV. Follows it = Obeys

When you obey:

- 1) You increase the quality of your fellowship with the Father, and ultimately, you gain more confidence in spending time with Him.**
- 2) You prevent overload** (Not acting on what you know to be true about Jesus will eventually lead you to being overwhelmed.)

V. Closing Thoughts/Observations

- 1) v. 48 “Dug Deep” – The expectation for each of us is that there be depth to our relationship with Jesus.**
- 2) v. 48 Notice the sentence says “*When the flood came...*,” not “*If the flood came...*”**
- 3) v. 48-49 The Gospel = The wise man is the one who comes to Christ (salvation), hears His sayings (instruction) & who does them (obedience). THIS IS THE RIGHT WAY TO BUILD A LIFE THAT IS HOPEFUL & NOT HELPLESS! When the house (life) is battered by floods and streams (different life situations and circumstances), the house stands because the foundation is laid “on the rock” (Christ & His teachings).**

The foolish man is the one who hears (instruction), but who fails to follow the teaching (disobedience). He builds his life on what he thinks to be best. When the storms of life rage, his house (life), which is without a foundation, is swept away.

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