BUILDING YOUR SPIRITUAL HOUSE
Matthew 7:24-27

INTRODUCTION
A. Hebrews 3:3-4.
B. Galatians 2:18.
C. Romans 15:20.
D. What is your spiritual house?
   1. Your relationship to God.
   2. Your faith (build and maintain).
   3. Your spiritual condition.
E. Different kinds of houses.
   1. We built - Solid Construction.
   3. Were Good Houses – Poorly Maintained.
F. How to build YOUR spiritual house.

DISCUSSION
I. MUST HAVE A PLAN.
A. Image starting a house – with no idea of the size, style, how arranged.
B. Some try to build spiritual house without a plan:
   1. No idea of “finished product” (what want to be).
   2. No idea what they have or what they need.
   3. Merely go to worship – do little more about their spiritual life (cf. 2 Corinthians 13:5).
C. A Plan!
   1. What you want to be:
      a. Strong / mature (2 Peter 1:5-10).
      b. Knowledgeable (Hebrews 5:11-12).
      c. An example (1 Timothy 4:12; Tit. 2:10).
      d. More acceptable (2 Corinthians 5:9; 2 Peter 3:18).
   2. Must be realistic.
   3. Flexible (willing to change where can improve).
D. Begin with a vision of what an “ideal” Christian would be.
   1. Colossians 1:9-12.

II. MUST KNOW HOW TO BUILD.
A. Imagine trying to build.
   1. No clue how to frame, hang a door, or wire, etc.
   2. Don’t know the order – hang wallboard before insulation.
   3. Some attempt to build faith – with no idea:
      a. How faith is built.
      b. How to make “house” strong.
      c. What should come first.
B. Build with the word of God (Acts 20:32; 1 Corinthians 14:1-5).
   1. Not by enthusiasm and excitement.
   2. Not by mere association / fun.
   1. Not random study.

D. Grasp basics before deeper (Hebrews 5:11-6:1).
   1. Know before teach & help others (James 3:1).
   2. Some things may not be ready for...

E. How to prevent & handle problems (Hebrews 2:1; 4:16).

III. MUST HAVE RIGHT FOUNDATION.
   A. Foundation is extremely important (Matthew 7:24-27).
   B. Whole house rest upon the foundation.
      1. If foundation is weak – house is in danger.
      2. If foundation is strong – house is solid!
   C. Foundation of first principles must be well laid (Hebrews 6:1-ff).
      1. Inspiration (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
      2. Deity of Christ (Hebrews 1:8).
      5. Bible Authority (2 John 9).
      6. Fear of God (Psalm 34).
      7. Morality (Galatians 5:19-21).

IV. MUST HAVE GOOD MATERIALS.
   A. Poor quality materials may cause problems down the road.
   B. Inferior materials may seem “good” at the time.
   C. Imagine building a house with:
      1. Crooked studs.
      2. Cracked rafters.
      3. Warped plywood.
   D. Some try to build spiritually with “cheap” materials.
      1. Some drink from denominational & liberal wells (popular books, web pages, etc.).
      2. Some try to build with the “fluff” that is passed off as Bible preaching.
      3. Some try to build on friendships, and local church relationship (converted to local church).
   E. Quality Materials.
      1. Not build with uncertain sounds (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:8).
      2. Build with word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-4:2)
      5. Build upon genuine faith (2 Peter 1:5; 1 Peter 1:7).
      6. Build without hypocrisy (Galatians 6:7-9).

V. MUST HAVE RIGHT TOOLS.
   A. Some things cannot do without right tool.
      1. Drive a nail – without a hammer.
      2. Dig a hole – without a shovel.
      3. Cut a board – without a saw.
   B. “Can do anything with the right tool.”
   C. Some have right tools – do not know how to use them.
   D. Some “Specialty” tools that few have.
   E. Tools:
      1. Tools We Have:
a. Word of God (Ephesians 6:17).
b. Prayer (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Pet. 5:7.)
c. High Priest (Hebrews 4:16).
d. Elders (Titus 1).

2. Know How To Use Them:
   a. 2 Timothy 2:15.

VI. MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE COST.
A. Generally – Have an idea (estimate) before start.
B. May (most of time does) cost you more.
C. Some of the cost will surprise you.
D. If going to have a house –Must pay cost:
   1. If going to have brick – pay the cost.
   2. If going to have carpet – pay the cost.
   3. If going to have hardwood – pay the cost.
E. Your Spiritual house has many “cost”.
F. Count the cost (Luke 14:28).
G. The cost:
   3. Pleasure (Hebrews. 11:25).
   4. Life (Revelation 2:10).
H. May be some “cost” not counted on.

VII. IT WILL TAKE TIME.
A. It will take longer than you want it to.
B. Quality / workmanship – takes time.
C. “Quick” & “Fast” is not always good.
D. Never seem to get finished.
E. Some attempt to build spiritual – want it “overnight”.
   2. Some get discouraged that they are not what others are.
F. It takes time – Hebrews 5:11-14.
   1. For a workable knowledge.
   2. For spiritual maturity.
   3. To be strong.
   4. To be a good teacher.
   5. To have a strong marriage.
   6. To overcome temptation.

CONCLUSION – Build YOUR Spiritual House God’s Way!
A. Must Have A Plan.
B. Must Know How To Build.
C. Must Have Right Foundation.
D. Must Have Good Materials.
E. Must Have Right Tools.
F. Must Be Prepared For The Cost.
G. It Will Take Time.