WILL YOUR HOUSE STILL BE STANDING?



"Every one then who hears these words of mine and <u>does them</u> will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock."

Matthew 7

It is a dangerous thing to hear the words of Jesus.

Those words are light like no other words ever spoken on this earth.

They liberate the soul.

They empower those who believe and obey them.

But once we have heard the words of Jesus, we are no longer innocent.

We cannot plead ignorance.

We have heard.

What we do with those words will determine our destiny.

"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin.

But now they have no excuse for their sin"

John 15:22

Maybe we struggle and stumble as we try to live those words.

But the Master knows when our heart is set on doing his will.

Sometimes we repent and ask his forgiveness.

Sometimes we pick ourselves up and start over.

But we keep going.

Then comes the storm.

"And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."



The windows rattled and the floor creaked, but when the storm ended our house was still standing.

Words from the Master's mouth sustained us...
.... because they passed from our ears into our hearts and became rock-solid deeds.

"And every one who hears these words of mine and <u>does not do them</u> will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand."

We may know every word that Jesus spoke in the gospels.

We may be able to quote the Sermon on the Mount from memory.

But are we acting on those words?

Do we keep going, when we stumble?

"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."

Matthew 7



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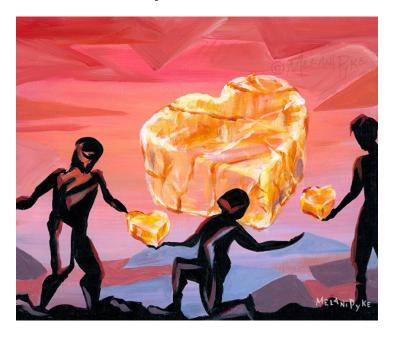
Once we hear those words, we cannot "unhear" them.

Those words are alive.

They follow us.

They haunt us.

They call for action.



"Forgive!"

"Get rid of that grudge!"

"Live by faith."

"Speak only the truth."

"Keep your eye single."

"Love your enemies."

"Pray for those who give you a hard time."

When the rain falls, the flood rises, the wind comes crashing through....

.... will your house still be standing?

Prayer: Lord, may our house still be standing despite the storms that hit us. Help us to take the words you speak to us and make them such a deep part of who we are that we stay strong, that we stay firmly attached to you, never unhearing what you tell us. And yes, may your living words not only continue to sustain us, but continue to follow us, continue to ring in our hearts, continue to spur us to act, so that no storm can separate us from you or from doing your will. Amen.

Message: Richard E. Bieber April 2021 aka You Cannot Unhear What You Heard Featured Artist: Melanie Pyke at melpyke.com

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