

THE ORTHODOX WEEKLY BULETIN VESTAL, CLIFFWOOD, NEW JERSEY

BUILDING A LIFE

Christ was known for telling parables. He used ordinary illustrations to clearly explain many eternal truths. Today we examine the time He showed that building a **LIFE IS** something like building a **HOUSE**. You can either build it pm a **ROCK** or on **SAND**.

The Lord said: *“He who hears My teaching and does them is like a wise man who built his house upon a Rock. The rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon the house; but it did not fall, for is was founded upon a **ROCK**.”* The Lord then said: *“And everyone who hears these saying of mine and does them not, shall be likened to a follish man, who build his house upon **SAND**. The rains descended , the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon he house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”*

We realize that Jesus was not speaking about the construction business even though He had learned the carpentry trade. Jeus was *TEACHING*. He was snot telling peope how to build houses but how to build their lives.

In the land where Jesus lived, there were two general kinds of places to build a house. One of these places were in the wide, dry river beds. Maybe, only once in a gereration, would the streams be dangerous as they rushed along. There on the **SAND** it was easy to build and convenient to live. On the other hand, to build upon **ROCK** was difficult. It meant excavation, grading, carrying materials up the hill. Even living there was harder. But is was the best place to build, becaue when the storms came, it would be safe.

Every person is building his or her life. The thoughts we think, what we learn, the words we speak, the things we do or leave un-done, our loves and hates . . . everything we do contributes to the building of our lives. What kind of foundation should we have for life? Building our lives on Christ’s teaching and principles is building on **ROCK**. This may not be easy, but it is the best.

On the other hand, it is easy to say, “it really doesn’t matter” anymre in our society, Everbody gets away with what he can; everbody steals, everybody drinks, everbody sins. But that’s building a life on **SAND**. We must remember that testing will come. Testing comes to all . . . a crisis of some sort, a death to a loved one, sickness, a loss of a job, an injustice. . . there are as many different storms in life as there are in Nature.

Whether we will be able to stand under the assaults of these storms depends upon the foundation of our lives. Our faith and trust in Christ will hold us firm, like a house built on **ROCK**. Where Are **YOU** building hour house?

