

Plain Talk About Doing What Jesus Says

Luke 6:46-49

In this Plain Talk series, we have seen Jesus plainly teaching *“love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, give to all who ask...treat others as you’d have them treat you.”* After teaching His disciple how to live, *“Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”*

I. There is a reality in being a Christian that not everyone grasps.

The literal language of verse 46 is *“Why do you call out, ‘My Lord, My Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”* This is a question that doesn’t need an answer; it is rhetorical - asked in order to make a point rather than elicit an answer. The point is Jesus can only be Lord of your life when you do what He says. *“Therefore let all know for certain that God has made Him **both** Lord and Christ”* (Acts 2:36). The Bible knows nothing about one coming to know Christ *without a change in behavior*. That’s reality.

(A). Perception and reality are often different....

The determination of the reality of whether or not true Christianity abides in you is this text.

(B). Your perception is not my reality, nor is my perception your reality...

One must be very careful in determining whether or not someone else is doing what Jesus says. We see through a mirror darkly, and Jesus plainly tells us that we are to focus only on ourselves. *“Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart”* (1 Corinthians 4:5).

II. There is a stability in the Christian life that not everyone has.

“One who comes to Me, hears My words, and acts on them, I will show you whom he’s like” (v. 47).

(A). He is like a man who built his house on a Rock.

Rock is an Old Testament word used as a synonym for God. “Foundation” is a New Testament term for Christ used a number of times, most notably in 1 Corinthians 3:11. So you go all the way down, you dig down into spiritual reality, you dig deep, and you lay your foundation of life.

(B). He is like a man who is not shaken by the storms of life.

“And when a flood rose,” as they did frequently and still do occasionally in Israel, very much like California or Arizona, *“the torrents burst against the house.”* The language is very graphic and vivid. It smashes the house and couldn’t shake it because it was well built. You are the house.

(C). The foolish man is the one who builds his life on the sand.

There are several things that are true about sand when compared to a rock solid foundation.

- (1). Sand is always easier to handle than rock - sometimes the words of Jesus are hard.
- (2). Sand is always shifting this way and that - similar to the fads of culture and society itself.
- (3). Sand will never hold up under a storm - just like those who build their lives on anything but the truth of Jesus - the One God made both Savior and Lord - in order to deliver sinners.

III. There is a capability to be both real and stable in the Christian life.

There are three verbs in verse 47 that should not be missed by the desperate: **Come. Hear. Act.** Some of you would like to be given a magical new verse, or a new sermon, or a great new book. Maybe what we all need to do is just obey the teaching we’ve already received. God can teach you a few things down the road, but right now, you already know what you’re supposed to do, so let’s knock that out first. So let me ask you. Last question: what is the Holy Spirit highlighting in you?

Come to Jesus - Hear this Jesus - Act on Jesus’ words.