

## Proverbs 10:25 (NLT2)

*When the storms of life come, the wicked are whirled away, but the godly have a lasting foundation.*

This past weekend we had a few pretty strong storms where I live. When that happens, people will talk about things that happened, or didn't happen to their homes or other buildings because of the storms. Some would talk about bad things happening like flooding, hail or major water damage to their homes because they did not prepare their homes for the storm.

Others talk about how they didn't have flooding or water damage because they prepared for storm, and they prepared because they learned by experience, or were taught to be prepared.

With that in mind, read today's verse again:

† *When the storms of life come, the wicked are whirled away, but the godly have a lasting foundation.*

Let's also read Jesus' parable at the end of the Sermon on the Mount.

† **Matthew 7:24-27** *Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.*

You can think of the man in the first half of Jesus' parable that "***built his house on the rock***" as the same man who is godly in the Proverb. "***the godly have a lasting foundation***".

Simply, just like when I was talking about the storm that hit our area this last weekend, there were those who were prepared for them and they had to do things to their homes, and around their homes to be prepared. As Christians, we should be prepared for storms that come into everyone's life several times throughout our lifetime.

But the second half of Jesus' parable about the "***man who built his house on the sand***" is the same man in the Proverb, where the "***wicked are whirled away***" because he was not prepared.

When life storms hit the life of a non believer, they simply freak out because they are not prepared and they build their foundations of things of this world, whereas Christians build their foundation on the word of God, and our Rock, Who is Jesus Christ.

Now they have preparedness kits that you can buy to help you out when actual storms hit, and there are websites that you can go to that will help you prepare your home for when a major storm hits as well.

But for life storms... sure you can have a little extra in your savings, but money does not buy or help your emotional state. Think of Job and his wife who had lost everything. Job's wife was not focused on God, but the storms that had hit their life, and her response was:

† **Job 2:9** *Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!"*

But Job had prepared his heart and his life for moments like this, because he knew that storms would hit his life, and his response was:

† **Job 1:21** *And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD."*

Just like the storm that hit my state that I live in, and storms have hit here off and on for thousands of years. So it is for us all, storms have hit us so far in our life, and they will continue to hit as we go on in life. So, it's never a matter of "if" a storm hits, but rather "when" the storm hits. Will you be prepared like a *"wise man who built his house on the rock"* or will you not be prepared like *"a foolish man who built his house on the sand"*?

They both had the same opportunity to prepare for the storm, one decided to prepare, the other made the choice not to prepare, and the result for the wise was that *"the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."* And for the foolish the results were different, because, *"the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."*

Note that it was the same storm, same wind, and same flood that they both experienced and had to prepare for. We have that same choice to prepare for the storms that hit us in life or not prepare for them. Also they are the same type of storms whether you are a believer or not a believer.

So choose this day how you will be prepared, by putting your faith on the Rock, which is Jesus Christ and you will not be shaken. Or put all your faith in earthly things and you will sink like you are standing in quicksand. How do you know if you are standing on quicksand? Because the more you struggle when you are caught in quicksand, the more you sink.

So for life storms, it's not Sink or Swim, but rather Struggle or Stand. The choice is yours.

† **Isaiah 42:17** *They shall be turned back, They shall be greatly ashamed, Who trust in carved images, Who say to the molded images, 'You are our gods.'*

† **Psalm 26:12 (NLT2)** *Now I stand on solid ground, and I will publicly praise the LORD.*