

**Sermon Notes: The Foundation of Our Faith Part 1**

**Topic: A Firm Foundation**

**Scripture Text: Matthew 7:24–27**

**01/14/2018**

**“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.” — Thomas Aquinas**

**Matthew 7:24–27 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup> “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: <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> “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: <sup>27</sup> and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”**

We as Christian **must** know what we believe and why we believe it.

There are 100’s of different religions beliefs in the world what makes our beliefs righter than theirs.

Many other “Christian” believed so strongly that they were willing to be tortured, beaten, and martyred for their beliefs. But that alone does not separate Christians from believers in other faiths.

It is not that Christianity is the oldest religion

It is not because Christianity is the largest religion, which it is.

Top 6 largest religions in the world

1. Christianity 2.3 Billion
2. Islam 1.6 Billion
3. Hinduism 1 Billion
4. Buddhism 400 Million
5. Sikhism 30 Million
6. Judaism 20 Million

Why do I believe what I believe in light of all the other religion/faiths?

*Romans 10:17 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup> So then **faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.***

Is that reason enough? Most all religions have a “Holy Book”. I listed just a few:

1. Islam - The Holy Quran.
2. Hinduism – Shreemad, Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads and Veda.
3. Buddhism - Tripitakas.
4. Sikhism - Guru Granth Sahib.
5. Judaism - Old Testament, Torah and the Talmud.

## 6. Mormons Book of Mormon

Our church motto is “The Word of God is the **foundation** for our faith and practice”. Other religions could say the same about their holy book. The question becomes, “how good (firm) your foundation is”.

Remember the story about the men building a house, one on a foundation of sand and the other on a rock foundation. (**Matthew 7:24–27**). This is a metaphoric story with applications toward our faith.

The house in this application represents our faith, built on the foundation of the Word of God (the gospel and scriptures).

### **Foundations:**

- Sand - sand is unstable, moved by wind, rain and flood. Anything built upon it is prone to fall.
- Rock – rock is solid,) hard to move and can withstand the elements.

### **Outside threats:**

- Rain, rising streams and wind represent different doctrine (teachings). They continue to attack our faith

A rock foundation will help us to stand.

- *Ephesians 4:14 (NKJV) <sup>14</sup> that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with **every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,*
- Jesus referred to a rock foundation (*that He is the Christ, the Son of the living God*) upon which He will build His church and not even the gates of hell will prevail against it. *Matthew 16:18 (NKJV) <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and **on this rock I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*

Message Scriptures: **Matthew 7:24–27**, *Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:1, Jude 20, Col 2:7, Matthew 16:16–18, 1 Corinthians 3:11, Galatians 1:7–8, 1 John 2:22, Ephesians 4:14, 1 Peter 2:2, Hebrews 5:14*

END

## RESOURCE

### **Top 10 Largest Religions In The World**

<http://www.worldstopmost.com/2018/largest-religions-world-fastest-growing/>

### **Archaeology Proves Bible History Accurate**

<https://www.thetrumpet.com/1912-archaeology-proves-bible-history-accurate>

### **Historical Accuracy**

<http://www.icr.org/biblical-record>

### **The Bible—A Remarkable Story of Survival**

<https://www.jw.org/en/publications/magazines/wp20091101/bible-story-of-survival>