

THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD
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As the close of 2016 draws near, so again does another theme. Our attention on Galatians 6:10 and its call for those in Christ to “*do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith*” has been vividly revealed through our study of the “one another” verses of the bible. Much like the analogy of being the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:23; Colossians 1:24), the idea of being God’s household gives us further understanding of who and what God yearns for us to be; that is, spiritual construction workers. With this in mind, I would like us to consider these words from Jesus.

***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...
Matthew 7:24***

Being members of “the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19) carries with it the commitment to the building project. And when we are “joined and knit together by what every joint supplies” (Ephesians 4:16), we help to secure the structure of God’s church. Of course, what keeps it stable is the Rock upon which it is built; that is, Jesus Christ. Paul writes, “***For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ***” (1st Corinthians 3:11). When God’s household is built upon Christ and His teachings, it can and will prevail against any storm because it is “founded on the rock” (Matthew 7:25).

***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...
Matthew 7:26***

When I read this, I couldn’t help but think of James 1:22 which says, “*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*” Abiding in Christ and His teachings enables the household of God to stand against the storms of life. These storms will “beat on that house,” challenging its integrity, looking for vulnerability. Calamity will come if the hearers remain mere hearers. But if we stand firm on Christ and His word, He will keep us steadfast through it all.

With this in mind, consider anew the teachings of God that speak of each of us as active members of His body, members of His household. Think of the one another verses that invite us into one another’s lives, helping us all in our journey homeward. In light of Matthew 7:24-29, how do you see yourself?

Dennis