



Four Faith: Vision 2011

Faith for Life

- 1-Faith for Life: What I Stand On
- 2-Faith for Life Style: How I Live
- 3-Faith for Ministry Life: How I Serve
- 4-Faith for Missional Life: How I Witness

After God told Joshua to meditate on the law [God's Word] day and night so that he might know God's will—he was immediately faced with his own inability. [*Josh 1-6*]

Dependent on Ourselves or Desperate for His Spirit?

A. What Will You **BE** in 2011?

After teaching what we know as the 'Sermon on the Mount' Jesus gave a final parable to sum up the teaching. He is saying here, "After all of this teaching will you live in wisdom or go off into foolishness?"

1. The fool: Over and over in one form or another Jesus says, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches [and me]." *Matt 11:15; Mark 4:9, 23; Luke 16:35; Rev 2:7*

The character of the fool is: The way they 'see it' is the right way (only way) for them. (*Pro 12:15*) Someone who in his pride is wise in his own eyes but acts contrary to the will of God and thus does (intentionally or not) what is evil. His foolishness culminates in a denial of the existence of God (*Ps. 14:1*).

2. The wise: Biblical wisdom always refers to someone who knows the 'truth' and also acts upon it. Solomon was one of the wisest persons who ever lived—but became foolish when he disregarded the commands of God.

B. What Will You **DO** in 2011?

1. When you build on sand: Temporary — Sand is always moving, unstable and whatever form it's in—it will soon change. The truth is that everything in this world is decaying and passing away.

Visit the beach but don't live on the sand! Enjoy for a season but do not become 'attached.' "The first call of every Christian is to abandon the attachments to the world." Bonhoeffer "Cost of Discipleship"

No protection: Serving mostly our own indulgences fails to build an inner fortress that will protect us in times of testing and trials.

2. When you build on rock: Eternal — The rock is a metaphor for God and His salvation through the shed blood of Jesus the Messiah. God is NOT temporary—He is eternal. (*See Psalm 62:4-8*)

Four Things To Do In 2011

- **Read: With Passion** Read the whole Bible or a part of the Bible through in 2011. See message handout "Read The Word" Dec 26, 2010 (<http://villagealive.com/ReadTheBible.html>)
- **Pray: With Faith** "Pray without ceasing." *1 Thes 5:17* "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost." *Jude 20*
- **Give: With Joy** "God loveth a cheerful giver." *2 Cor 9:7* "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse." *Mal 3:10* *ESV* "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." *Matt 13:44 KJV* (Also see *Malachi chapter 3; 2 Cor chapters 8-9*)
- **Love: Without Partiality** "I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality." *NKJ 1 Tim 5:21*

Matthew 7:24-27 (KJV)

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Psal|m 62:4-8 (KJV)

5 My soul, ***wait thou only upon God;***

For my expectation is from him.

6 He only is my rock and my salvation:

He is my defense; I shall not be moved.

7 In God is my salvation and my glory:

The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

8 Trust in him at all times; ye people,

Pour out your heart before him:

God is a refuge for us.