

Not Enough Backbone

by F.B. Shepherd

To my mind the greatest tragedies of life do not result from lack of knowledge but from lack of application. Not from ignorance of duty or responsibility, but from neglect and refusal to obey. Read **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.”*

Take a look at King Saul and King Solomon. Discern the reason for the punishment of the one talent man. The wise man **hears** and **does**. The foolish man **hears** and **neglects**.

I am persuaded exceedingly few people actually wish to be mean and sinful. I cannot conceive a person who does not want to be saved. We are defeated by Satan, however, not because we lack the **want** but because we lack the **will**. We do not fail from lack of **wishing**, but from lack of **willing**.

The child of God is not saved because of what he knows but because of what he **does**. Nor is he to enjoy eternal life because he is efficient or successful as men count the desirable things, but because he has been **faithful**. And faithful not merely **until** death, but **unto** death.

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