

You've Got to Stand for Something!

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In 1991, country musician Aaron Tippin released an album titled “You’ve Got to Stand for Something.” The title-track of that album quickly became a hit for Tippin and one of his signature songs. The often repeated chorus states:

*He'd say you've got to stand for something or you'll fall for anything
You've got to be your own man not a puppet on a string
Never compromise what's right and uphold your family name
You've got to stand for something or you'll fall for anything.*

How true! It seems that in the world, there are too many people that get upset or offended over anything that come by because they truly don’t know what they believe or stand for. Since they have no true feelings, they can go along with anything until something even better passes by.

The Bible states otherwise, however.

The Psalmist starts out by stating that a man is blessed if he “walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” (Psalm 1:1). Here we see the progressive nature of sin. After this contrast, the righteous man “shall be like a tree **planted by the rivers of water**, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” (1:3, emphasis added). We are told that the righteous man has good roots and is firmly planted. Are you firmly planted?

When concluding His Sermon on the Mount, the Master Teacher makes a contrast between a wise builder and a foolish builder, Matthew 7:24-27. “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**: 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**. 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**: 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.” (Emphasis added). Christ teaches that a good foundation is the key to life! The two houses would be exactly identical except for the choice of foundations. What foundation are you building on?

There is only one foundation out there that will get you to Heaven. Jesus identified it Himself when asking His disciples “But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, **and upon this rock I will build my church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:15-18, emphasis added). Jesus states that the confession that Peter made – not Peter himself – is the solid foundation. Once this foundation is established, one must by necessity (see Acts 22:16) act upon it and remain faithful until death (see Revelation 2:10). The chorus of *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* states:

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

Jude 2.