# Built for the Storm
# Establishing a Faith that Endures

By Ken Birks, Pastor, Teacher, Author




As we look around at the world today, it becomes increasingly clear that we are living in extraordinary and perilous times. The spiritual climate is not merely changing; it is rapidly shifting before our eyes. The dark storm clouds that once appeared only on the distant horizon are no longer approaching. They are now gathering overhead. What was once foretold is now unfolding.

This season before us demands that our lives be built on a strong foundation, to which our spiritual house will withstand the storms that are prevailing in our world today. Jesus concluded the *"Sermon on the Mount"* with a sobering warning. He spoke of two builders. Both heard His words. Both built houses. Both faced the same storm. Yet only one remained standing. The wise man built upon the rock, while the foolish man built upon sand. When the storm came, the foolish man's house collapsed with devastating ruin.

*"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."*[1]

In recent years, we have witnessed an unprecedented increase in wars and rumors of wars, political upheaval, social unrest, moral confusion, cultural battles, and natural disasters on a global scale. The foundations that once anchored nations, communities, and families are being shaken. Evil is being celebrated, truth is being questioned, and many hearts are growing cold. The very conditions that Jesus warned would characterize the last days seem to be intensifying with each passing year.

These are not days for spiritual complacency. They are not days for casual Christianity or shallow faith. The winds are beginning to blow, the rain is starting to fall, and the floodwaters are rising. The question is no longer whether storms are coming, it is whether our lives are built upon a foundation strong enough to withstand them. Will we be left standing with a faith that endures?

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[1] Matthew7:24-27

We have entered a season in which the urgent need for strong spiritual foundations cannot be overstated. The days ahead will require more than religious routines and occasional church attendance. They will demand men and women whose lives are firmly rooted in God's Word, anchored in prayer, guided by the Holy Spirit, and unwavering in their commitment to Jesus Christ.

The warning Jesus gave us in His parable is more relevant today than ever before. The storm clouds are no longer gathering in the distance. They are upon us. This is the hour for believers to examine their foundations, strengthen their walk with God, and draw nearer to Christ than ever before. The days ahead will reveal what we have truly built upon.

Yet even in this sobering hour, there is hope. Our Shepherd has not abandoned His flock. The Lord is still calling, preparing, strengthening, and gathering His people. Those who build upon the Rock will not only survive the storm, but they will also stand as lights in the darkness, offering hope to a world desperately searching for answers. The time to build is now. The time to awaken is now. The time to deepen our roots in Christ is now, before the full force of the storm is unleashed.

Today, many people are asking what the future holds. The birth pains of our generation are not merely signs of coming storms. They are God's wake-up call to build deeply, stand firmly, and live purposefully upon the unshakable Rock of Jesus Christ. They are exposing what is genuine and what is superficial. They are testing whether our faith is built upon the unchanging truth of Christ or upon the shifting sands of culture, personal opinions, political systems, financial security, or religious traditions.

## Three Dominate Areas to Build Upon

The Scriptures give us three dominant areas in our lives that go into reinforcing the foundation. They are doctrine, character, and destiny.

## 1. Build on the Rock through Sound Doctrine

The wise builder is one who hears Christ's words and acts upon them. Sound doctrine is essential because it anchors us to the truth of God's Word. In an age of deception and spiritual confusion, believers cannot afford to build upon popular opinions or emotionally driven beliefs.

The early church remained strong because they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine. God's Word provided stability in uncertain times, and it still does today. Paul told Timothy, “Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”[2]

[2] 1 Timothy 4:16

As the birth pains intensify, many will be carried about by every wind of doctrine. But those who are rooted in Scripture will remain steadfast. Truth is not merely information. It is a foundation stone that enables us to stand when the winds begin to blow.

## 2. Build on the Rock Through Character

A strong foundation is not measured only by what we know but by who we are becoming. Storms reveal character. Pressure exposes weaknesses. Trials uncover cracks that may have been hidden for years. God is using this season to mature His people. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, He is developing faith, self-control, perseverance, godliness, kindness, and love within us. These qualities are not optional additions to the Christian life. They are evidence that our house is being built upon the Rock.

Many have shipwrecked their faith because they pursued spiritual experiences while neglecting character development. Paul spoke of those who had shipwrecked their faith. He encouraged Timothy to have faith and a good conscience. He said, "*Have faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme."*[3]

## 3. Build on the Rock through Vision, Purpose, and Destiny

The wise builder understands why he is building. God has not called us simply to survive the last days. He has called us to fulfill His purpose in them. Every believer has a divine assignment. Every believer has a calling that contributes to God's redemptive plan.

One of the greatest dangers during prophetic fulfillment is becoming distracted by fear. Fear causes people to focus on the storm rather than the Builder. Vision keeps us focused on God's purpose. It reminds us that while nations may shake, God's kingdom remains unshaken. While darkness increases, God's light shines brighter through His people. While birth pains intensify, they signal that the fulfillment of God's promises is drawing nearer.

## A Call to Urgency and Hope

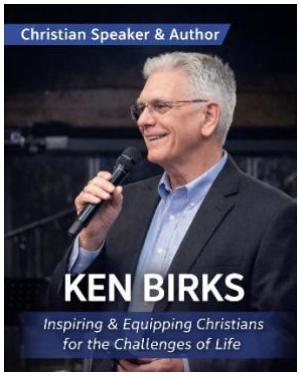
The hour is late, and the signs are becoming more evident. This is not the time to drift spiritually. Now is the time to deepen our roots in God's Word. Now is the time to allow the Holy Spirit to refine our character. Now is the time to embrace our calling with renewed determination. The enemy continues to target foundations because he knows that what is built upon the Rock cannot be destroyed. As Psalm 11 asks, "*If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?*" The answer is clear: we must strengthen the foundations before the storm reaches its full intensity. Yet our message is not fear. It is hope. The same Jesus who warned of birth pains also promised that when believers see these things coming to pass, they should look up because their

[3] 1 Timothy 1:19-20

redemption is drawing near. The Wise Builder is still building His Church. The Chief Cornerstone is still secure. The Rock has not moved. And those who build their lives upon Him will not be shaken.

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## About Ken Birks




Ken Birks has walked with God through seasons of quiet wonder, deep refining, and unexpected grace — journeys that have shaped both his faith and voice. From early moments of sensing God's nearness to years of learning to listen more closely, Ken has discovered that the Lord often speaks in whispers, rhythms, and poetic impressions.

Out of those sacred encounters came a desire to write — not to impress, but to invite. To invite others into the same stillness, the same clarity, the same holy encouragement that has carried them through life's valleys and mountaintops. His devotional poetry and other writings flow from a heart that has wrestled, worshiped, and been transformed by God's presence.

Today, Ken writes to help fellow believers pause, breathe, and rediscover the treasures God longs to place within them. Ken's hope is simple: that every reader will feel the Father's nearness, hear His voice more clearly, and walk with renewed courage into the calling He has lovingly prepared.

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