

# Building on Sand

- At the end of Jesus's "Sermon on the Mount," Jesus gave a powerful warning about building on sand.
- *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: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (Mt. 7:24-27).*

# Only Other Uses in Scripture

- *By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; Gen 22:16-17*
- *And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 1 Kings 4:29*

# Children Enjoy a Day at the Beach

- The same property of sand that Jesus used is that it is among the easiest substances to form and mold.
- With a small bucket and a shovel the youngest child can build a sand castle in a short time.



# Children At Heart Also Work in Sand



# End of the Day as the Tide Returns











# The Sands of Time

- **The principle of water's affect on sand to remove all traces of human effort and toil is a powerful illustration. For it is how time works on all man's efforts in the material realm.**

# The Sands of Time

- *time is filled with swift transition,*
- *naught of earth unmoved can stand,*
- *build your hopes on things eternal,*
- *hold to God's unchanging hand,*
  
- *Beyond this land of parting, losing and leaving*
- *Far beyond the losses darkening this*
- *And far beyond the taking and the bereaving*
- *Lies the summer land of bliss*
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- *“All flesh is like grass, And all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, And the flower falls off, But the word of the Lord abides forever,” (1Pet. 1:24-25),*

# The Sands of Time

- Newlyweds – planning to start a family.
- Build a new barn to be a blessing to them.
- The years pass far more slowly than the tides of the sea, but the results are the same.
- We see them all the time. A new barn, a century later, is now nearing collapse.
- Hopes and dreams gone forever.
- The Sands of time will soon wash them away.



# The Tides and Time

- *One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever. 5 The sun also rises, and the sun goes down And hastens to the place where it arose. 6 The wind goes toward the south, And turns around to the north; The wind whirls about continually, And comes again on its circuit. 7 All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, There they return again. Eccl 1:4-7*
- We saw it with our grandparents, then slowly, our parents, then it will be us ... our children...

# Time and Memory

- *Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us. 11 There is no remembrance of former things, Nor will there be any remembrance of things that are to come By those who will come after. Eccl 1:10-11*
- Like the barn of the sandcastle, we build our own beautiful life.
- But never forget, it will soon all be washed away and the only one to remember us is God.
- What memories are we building with Him so there will be something worth remembering?









# The Sands of Memory

- While our lives and memories mean everything
- We pass only a few of them to our children.
- When we are gone, our memories leave this earth forever.
- I sometimes wish I could ask my parents to share a memory, but it is gone with no one to remember.
- We pass our most cherished memories to our children, unlikely they will pass them to theirs.
- As we stroll through an old graveyard, we see names and dates. Some from the 1800's. We see a birth and a death. What happened in between?
- Truly now, only God knows

# When Only God Remembers

- What memories are we working so hard to build with Him?
- Will God remember us with memories of faithful service and sacrifice for him?
- Will we live so that they are memories of our unwavering faith and commitment?
- Are they memories of friendship, devotion and genuine worship and sacrifice?
- Centuries later, God still remembered Abraham:
- *But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend. Isa. 41:8*

# God Assures Us – If we are Faithful

- *But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me, And my Lord has forgotten me.” 15 “Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you. 16 See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me. (Isa. 49:14-16)*

# The Sands of Memory

- *For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten. 6 Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share In anything done under the sun. Eccl 9:5-10*

# As The Life of A Flower

- *As the life of a flower, As a breath or a sigh*
- *So the years that we live like a dream hasten by*
- *True today we are here, but tomorrow may see*
- *Just a grave in the vale and a memory of me*
- *While we tarry below let us trust and adore*
- *Him who leads us each day toward the radiant shore*
- *Where the sun never sets and the flowers never fade*
- *Where no sorrow or death May its borders invade*



# The Life of a Flower

- *The voice said, “Cry out!” And he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the Lord blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.” Isa 40:6-9*
- *And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:17*

# The Entire Material Creation

- Will End Just like that Sand Castle
- *Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 2Pet 3:11-13*

# The Lord's Book

- *Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, And the Lord listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord And who meditate on His name. 17 "They shall be Mine," says the Lord of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him." (Mal. 3:16-18)*
- He has promised that all who faithfully serve Him have come to Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem. (Heb. 12:11). Because we are now in Zion, God has promised, *"I will never forget you."*

- After the sands of time have washed away all evidence of our existence, when even our bones have returned to dust, God has promised, the memories of faithful service and sacrifice that we share with Him will never be forgotten.
- He has written our name in a book, and on the final day, both the names, and all the memories they represent will live on for all eternity.
- Is your name written in the Lamb's book of life?