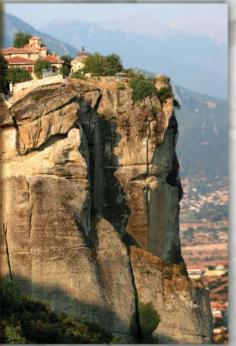# Visible verse™

Matthew 7:24-25

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

Earth

Without Excuse

The Earth's outer solid layer, the lithosphere, is made of rock that is often hidden beneath a layer of softer material. When wind, water, and temperature extremes erode the Earth's surface, solid rock emerges. The rock pillars of Metéora, near Kalampaka, Greece, provide an impressive example of this. The rock pillar pictured on the front of this Visible Verse™ card rises to a height of over 1,000 feet. Hermit monks, seeking a retreat from the expanding Turkish occupation near the turn of the 12th century, found the inaccessible rock pillars of Metéora to be an ideal refuge. Six of the original monasteries built on these impressive rocks still stand, despite weathering nearly 1,000 years of nature's destructive forces.

As it is with builders, so it is in our lives; we must choose a foundation. Jesus compared His teaching to a rock foundation, our lives to a house, and life's many difficulties to the destructive forces of nature. When we choose to build our lives on the foundation of Jesus Christ, it means we both hear AND do what He taught. A life built on Jesus' teaching experiences a sense of peace and joy, even in the face of the destructive forces of a sinful world! When we choose to follow Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit leads us in understanding His teachings and empowers us to live them out.

May you be reminded to put Jesus' teachings into practice with every rock you see!

Photo: Holy Trinity Monastery of Metéora; Kalampaka , Greece
Photo Credit: Greg Strock

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