To conclude the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told the parable of two builders. Each man built a house, but the foundations were different.

The wise man built his house on a solid foundation of rock. When the rain and floods came, along with the wind beating against the house, it did not fall because it was built on solid ground. Jesus said those who hear his words and put them into practice are like the wise builder of this house.

The foolish man built his house on sand. When the rain and floods and wind came, the house was destroyed in a great crash. Jesus said those who hear his words, but do not put them into practice, are like the foolish builder of this house.

When Jesus completed the Sermon on the Mount, the people were “amazed at his teaching.” He taught in a manner different from what they were used to. He taught as one who had authority, which was not like the other teachers of the law.

**POINTS TO CONSIDER:**
- This story is also told in Luke 6:46-49. Luke indicates that Jesus told the story of two builders because many people were calling him their Lord, but were not putting into practice what he taught.
- In the New Testament, Jesus is often referred to as the cornerstone. In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul said that the believers in Ephesus are “built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20). See also 1 Peter 2:6.

**The Two Foundations**

I. Jesus told a parable of two men who each built a house.
A. One man built his house on a rock foundation.
B. The house withstood rain, floods and strong winds because it had a strong foundation.
C. Jesus said everyone who hears his words and puts them into practice is like the wise builder.

II. The foolish man built his house on sand.
A. Rain, floods and winds also beat on this house.
B. The foolish man’s house was destroyed because the foundation was weak.
C. Jesus said everyone who hears his words and does not put them into practice is like the foolish builder.

III. People who heard the Sermon on the Mount were amazed.
A. The parable was the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount.
B. Jesus taught differently than other teachers.
C. The listeners thought Jesus taught as one who had authority.

**ANSWER KEY:**
- solid rock, sand, It didn’t fall. It was destroyed in a great crash!
- Jesus said anyone who hears His words, but does not put them into practice, is like the foolish man.