

# Building a Palace... on a Shack Foundation

By Christina Dixon

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**W**hen things around us get to breaking down and we feel abandoned by God, we ask, "How on earth am I supposed to be okay with my life falling apart?" For many of us, our lives are falling apart because we have made choices that were not wise and healthy. For others things are all torn up because we are in relationship with someone whose choices have made their impact upon us. No matter how the brokenness in our lives manifests itself, the realities of being in a fallen world are all around.

Still, there are other times when the broken nature of things is an answer to prayer. We have asked God to bless us in ways that seem impossible from our current vantage point. Yet, He is answering our prayers by tearing things up. We have asked God for lives that parallel the elegant and well-guarded beauty of a palace. Right now though, our lives parallel the fragile and unstable vulnerability of a shack. So, what do we do? I say we have to face facts. The fact is, you can't build a palace on a shack's foundation!

If you have asked God to change things in your life, for the better, realize that many things that are familiar and comfortable will need to be changed. No – removed!

Like a contractor, God has already had the land of your life and heart surveyed. The plans have been laid out on the table and the next step is to remove the old structure and its inadequate foundation. The wrecking ball is doing its job. It's tearing things up.

Rejoice! Praise God that after the ground is leveled and a new foundation poured, all that was previously unsuitable is being cleared away to make room for the glorious future He has before you. To be sure this is hard and messy work. Like a busy, noisy, muddy and dusty construction site, your life is being transformed from something old, to something new and glorious. Rest in the knowledge that it will all be worth the wait.

It's not wise or safe to stand in front of the wrecking ball slowing down progress. Move out of the way and let it swing! Even though things feel unfamiliar and look frightening know in your heart of hearts that all shall be well. This is a process that will not be left unfinished. Unlike those who start a building project and run out of funds, and so are unable to finish what they started, God is faithful. He will see this transformation through to the end. Yesterday's shack will be tomorrow's palace.



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