



## **Sandcastle Kings: Meeting Jesus in a Spiritually Bankrupt World**

*Rich Wilkerson Jr.*

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The world seems to have figured out the formula for manufacturing material success, but when it comes to finding true, lasting happiness, we are as lost as ever. We yearn for more, or less, or something that's just different from what we have right now. Deep down, we know there must be satisfaction for our longing. We just don't know where to find it.

In *Sandcastle Kings*, Rich Wilkerson, Jr. uses four powerful stories from the seventh chapter of Luke to explain why spiritual fulfillment cannot be found in ourselves, in other people, in material things, or even in religion. By studying the stories of the centurion's faith, the resurrection of the widow's son, Jesus' message about John the Baptist, and the anointing by the woman with the alabaster jar, you will be able to face your doubts and insecurities and overcome your anxiety, discontentment, and depression. Wilkerson wants you to understand that the only answer for your spiritual bankruptcy is Jesus and that until you turn to him you will never experience the lasting peace and joy you so desperately crave.

## **Sandcastle Kings: Meeting Jesus in a Spiritually Bankrupt World Details**

Date : Published November 10th 2015 by Thomas Nelson

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Author : Rich Wilkerson Jr.

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## From Reader Review Sandcastle Kings: Meeting Jesus in a Spiritually Bankrupt World for online ebook

### Thasima Taylor says

i don't have a long profound editorial of how great this book is. But what I can say is if you are at a point in your life where everything seems to be going wrong or are experiencing a season of frustration it definitely can be a tear jerker. I think the most important concept in this book is distinguishing between the difference in believing in God versus you trusting God. Belief is an observation whereas trust requires relationship. This book may just be what you need to get a better understanding of who God is in your life.

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### Rebecca Ray says

I've been studying the gospel of Matthew this year, but you can't study just the gospel of Matthew without studying how it compares to the other gospels. So, when I heard that the book Sandcastle Kings: Meeting Jesus in a Spiritually Bankrupt World was a book length treatment of the seventh chapter of Luke, I was interested enough to want to take a peek at it.

In this book, first-time author Rich Wilkerson, Jr, examines four stories from the gospel of Luke to show how our deepest longs will not be met in other people, material things, or even the trappings of religion. Instead, our ultimate desires and the meaning in our life can only be found in Jesus. When we look to him, we'll find the peace and joy that our hearts crave, and we'll be able to satisfy the desires of our hearts.

I thought that this was a great, and yet still simple, treatment of this chapter of the Bible. Perhaps my favorite point in the whole book is when Wilkerson is examining the periscope of John the Baptist's followers coming to him to ask him questions. He quotes from Luke, "Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." (Luke 7:23) Then, he spends some time reminding us not to lose faith when Jesus doesn't act the way that we expected him to. That's been a very difficult and hard-fought lesson for me to learn, and I enjoyed seeing the affirmation here.

I also really like the way he sticks with one passage (chapter) of the Bible and builds the theme of his book based on the themes that he sees develop across the chapter. It's a beautiful and contextual method of building an interpretation of the chapter.

Disclaimer: I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### Brett Thomasson says

Pastor Rich Wilkerson, Jr., uses the metaphor of his childhood sandcastle building as a lens to look at four people in Luke 7 in his 2016 book *Sandcastle Kings*. No matter how elaborate a sandcastle he and his brother built, the next tide washed it away. Sandcastles do not last. Wilkerson links the idea of sandcastle building to Jesus' words in Matthew 7 about buildings that rest on rock versus those that rest on sand. Like the castles made of sand, the latter do not survive storms.

Each of the four people in Luke 7 that Wilkerson discusses has rested some dimension of their self-identification in the things of the impermanent world. When they encounter life's storms, whether ordinary or severe, that self-identification comes crashing down. Only by rooting our lives in Jesus himself can we build lives and selves that weather storms.

*Kings* is written with a breezy and simple style that might not be directly aimed at young people but which will probably be best received by them. Wilkerson also has aimed more at people beginning their relationship with Jesus than those who may be searching for paths of deeper discipleship. Most of what he says is operating in the binary "with Jesus or apart from Jesus" arena. This is perfectly legitimate and doesn't preclude reading *Kings* for fuel on a disciple's journey, but it does add an extra layer to that task.

The third section -- dealing with John the Baptist's question to Jesus about his Messiahship -- is probably the one that most addresses issues that confront people already in their walk with Jesus. The fourth, expounding on the nameless woman who washes Jesus' feet while he eats at the house of Simon the Pharisee, seems most focused on those who may not have started that walk. The kind of fuzzy focus weakens *Sandcastle Kings* and might make you wish it had been packed together a little more tightly.

Original may be found [here](#).

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### **Jesse Benedict says**

I first heard Rich speak at Youth America when I was 14. After reading this book, I love him even more. This book is worth your time.

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### **Margaret Fraleigh says**

This book was given to me as a gift. Absolutely wonderful book to read.

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### **Alyssa says**

{About the Book}

The world seems to have figured out the formula for manufacturing material success, but when it comes to finding true, lasting happiness, we are as lost as ever. We yearn for more, or less, or something that's just different from what we have right now. Deep down, we know there must be satisfaction for our longing. We just don't know where to find it.

In *Sandcastle Kings*, Rich Wilkerson uses four powerful stories from the seventh chapter of Luke to explain why spiritual fulfillment cannot be found in ourselves, in other people, in material things, or even in religion. By studying the stories of the centurion's faith, the resurrection of the widow's son, Jesus' message about John the Baptist, and the anointing by the woman with the alabaster jar, you will be able to face your doubts

and insecurities and overcome your anxiety, discontentment, and depression. Wilkerson wants you to understand that the only answer for your spiritual bankruptcy is Jesus and that until you turn to him you will never experience the lasting peace and joy you so desperately crave.

{Review}

Rating: 4.5 stars.

I follow the ministry of Clayton Jennings on social media and he had talked about Sandcastle Kings online and so when I saw this was up for review I decided to check it for myself. Boy, what a book Sandcastle Kings is. It is full of biblical truths and so many quotes I will gladly post on my own social media because they are so good. I did hear Pastor Rich has his own reality show on TV, I'm not really keen on Christians having reality shows so I'll probably never watch his show. I don't know why it kind of rubs me the wrong way and I've seen others and they just end up becoming a hot mess. So if you're like me and will skip his show then I recommend you pick up Sandcastle Kings sometime.

Note:::I received Sandcastle Kings free for review from the publisher.

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**Luzelle says**

3.5 Incredibly slow start which was partially why it took a long time to get through. However, towards the end, it was very insightful and had a lot of interesting points. Would still recommend.

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**Kenton Batson says**

I'm a Rich Wilkerson Jr. fan. Love his preaching and enjoy seeing his ministry grow. However, I struggled to get through this. I will say the last half was the best, and his illustrations were captivating. Not a bad first book, but hard to get into. 10/10 would recommend for a new believer or someone curious about faith.

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**Jamie Pennington says**

Very Excellent Book. Tons and tons of applications.

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**Derrick Smith says**

I would love to rate five stars. There was some truly great biblical principals and truths. And a couple really strong a-ha moments. But I got to be honest and say the end of this book. It's so repetitive. Multiple times I thought I was re-reading portions I already read. Because it verbatim repeats itself numerous numerous

times.

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### **Jeanie says**

Rating 3.5 Stars

**Meeting Jesus is imperfection meets perfection. Brokenness encounters wholeness. Grace results in gratitude.**

What are you building your faith on? Will it hold when your world starts to crumble? When those that you count on are no longer there? Wilkerson wit and strong personality comes thru every chapter where he brings the reader to a solid ground. A rock. The rock being the work of Christ.

Taking 4 stories from the bible, Wilkerson directs you to what faith looks like. That faith is trust in action. I appreciated the strong stand on that we are saved by grace and not works. That it is Christ's righteousness that is our righteousness. That God's love is not dependent on our love for him. That it is thankfulness that compels us to change to live for him. Each of these biblical accounts open our hearts to the sandcastle's we build only for them to be destroyed by the waves that crash them down.

I loved his words that the gospel message is in effect a marriage proposal. Wow! How we respond speaks to how we are able to love Him and others! It is a marriage worth fighting for!

*A Special Thank You to Thomas Nelson and Netgalley for the ARC and the opportunity to post an honest review*

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### **Lauren Beck says**

#### **Awesome book based on scripture**

He breaks down the parables into everyday life in today's terms. The book is very relatable and easy to read. If you are looking for a book that explains who Jesus is this is that book!

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### **Chelsea says**

(I RECEIVED AN ARC COPY FROM THE AUTHOR)

Sandcastle Kings takes care of every single detail. It's deeply spiritual and profoundly practical. Rich Wilkerson's voice is very organic and unforced while he breaks down the very core of a healthy relationship with Jesus. Wilkerson incorporates humor and his own real life anecdotes to perfectly draw a picture of how accessible A Life With Jesus is. Nothing about this book is impersonal; it felt natural to read the words on each page and it all flowed easily, so much so, I found myself nodding along!

I almost wish I could have read this while I was just beginning to delve into a more spiritual life, because I

know it would have been its own experience, but even so, it was still a powerful read! Wilkerson takes us to these many different "sandcastles" that we tend to build parts of, if not, all of our life upon, and elaborates. The sandcastles range so widely that I believe that many people will be able to personally connect with, at the very least, one. There's the sandcastle of Self, Other People, The World, and Religion.

One thing I really loved about this book was that I didn't feel like it was catered to any specific audience; I never once thought "oh this is aimed at men, or women, or older folks" it was all very relatable and Human. The book is ageless—timeless even. The concept of sandcastles is always going to be relevant but even more so during this day and age. Everything is being made for instant gratification and people are being conditioned to expect rewards for their loyalty or good works.

"A Good thing becomes a bad thing when we make it the foundational thing." —Rich Wilkerson, Jr.

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### **Jason Stanley says**

Rich Wilkerson, Jr., in his book Sandcastle Kings, pulls on those memory strings as he discusses the spiritually bankrupt world that we are living in and the need/desire to meet Jesus. Using four stories from Luke 7 – the centurion's faith, the resurrection of the widow's son, Jesus' message about John the Baptist, and the anointing by the woman with the alabaster jar – guides the reader into taking a closer look at the many ways we build sandcastles that will one day be wiped away by the storms that will come.

Drawing influence from the parable of the wise and foolish builder, Wilkerson told me in an interview, that what he found interesting about this parable, "is that both the wise man and the foolish man have to face the storm. Meaning, we can't prevent storms, but we can prepare for storms. And the way you prepare for a storm is knowing what you actually built on. What is the foundation of your life."

Read more at <http://jasoncstanley.com/book-review-...>

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### **Matthew Lloyd says**

#### **Timely Read in 2017**

This is a timely read for today's culture. We have it all and yet we want more or at least more of something else. The something else may be detrimental to us, but it doesn't kill the draw. Rich helps us fight back and a solid foundation for our life.

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