

I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

MATTHEW 16

Text:

Introduction:

- The Retreat with Jesus in Caesarea Philippi

Jesus reveals his coming death and resurrection.

- Peter's Confession

(Matthew 16:16) And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

- Christ's Promises to Build His Church

A statement that has caused confusion

Questions that clear up the mysteries

1. WHO IS BUILDING THE CHURCH?

(Matthew 16:18) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- A. Christ is Building the Church
- B. He Calls it His Church
- C. The Church is Built upon Christ
- D. He is the Rock of all Scripture

1. The Psalmist's Rock

(Psalms 18:31) For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God?

(Psalms 18:46) The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

(Psalms 62:2) He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

(Psalms 95:1) O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

2. Paul's Rock

(Romans 9:33) As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

(1 Corinthians 3:11) For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 10:4) And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

(Ephesians 2:19-22) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; {20} And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; {21} In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: {22} In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

3. Peter's Rock

(1 Peter 2:7-8) Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, {8} And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

E. The Church is on a Solid Foundation

2. WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

(Matthew 16:18) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

A. The Church is made up of Baptized Believers in a Local Assembly

(Hebrews 12:13) And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

B. The Church is the Body of Christ

(Colossians 1:18-24) And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. {19} For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; {20} And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. {21} And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled {22} In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: {23} If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature

which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; {24} Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

C. The Church is to Bring Glory to Christ

(Ephesians 3:21) Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

D. The Church is the Bride of Christ

(Ephesians 5:23-32) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. {24} Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. {25} Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; {26} That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, {27} That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. {28} So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. {29} For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: {30} For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. {31} For this cause

shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. {32} This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

E. The Church is built our of Living Stones

(1 Peter 2:5) Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1. Peter was a stone: Christ the Rock
2. Stones speak of the individuality of Believers
3. No two stones are exactly alike
4. Each believer is unique

(1 Corinthians 12:12-23) For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. {13} For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. {14} For the body is not one member, but many. {15} If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? {16} And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of

the body; is it therefore not of the body? {17} If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? {18} But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. {19} And if they were all one member, where were the body? {20} But now are they many members, yet but one body. {21} And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. {22} Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: {23} And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

3. HOW SECURE IS THE CHURCH?

(Matthew 16:18) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

A. The Gates of Hell shall not prevail against It

B. What is meant by the Gates of Hell?

1. A Familiar Figure of Speech Then

2. The Elders of the City Sat at the Gates

3. Armies were sent to Battle from the Gates

4. The Gates o Hell Symbolize sending the Forces of Evil

5. These Evil forces sent Against the Church

(Ephesians 6:12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

C. Jesus foresaw the Attacks of the Enemy upon the Church

1. The Martyrs of the First Century

2. Persecutions through the Centuries

D. But the Church Will Stand until Jesus Comes

Conclusion:

- Are you a Part of the Church?
- Have you received Christ as your Savior?
- Have you Been Baptized?

- Are you Building your Life on Him?
- Are you Active in the Church?
- Are you Doing your Part in the Church?
- Do you stand against the forces of evil?
- Do you live for the glory of God?
- Do you in souls and witness?