

On The Rock: 1

On This Rock

Matthew 16.13-20

Who Do You Say That I Am?

This is a personal question which demands a personal response.

Who do men say that I am?

Jesus made an impression wherever He went. His fame went before Him. Every where He went people heard that great miracles were taking place:

- Blind Bartimaeus in Jericho (Mark 10.46-52)
- Zaccheaus in Jericho (Luke 19.2-6)

Jesus was not moved by public opinion.

Who do you say that I am?

This was a pivotal moment in Peter's life – he had to confess Jesus as the Christ. He was an impetuous and impulsive man and often spoke 'out of turn', but here he speaks with all the conviction he has.

- it does not matter what others say about Jesus – your salvation, your walk with God is personal – it's up to you!

Philippians 2.12 - “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” - you can't blame others, your parents, children, friends or pastor

On This Rock

Matthew 16.17

Blessed are you - Peter didn't get this revelation from man but from the Father.

We must always believe that the word we hear and receive is direct from the Father

2 Timothy 3.16-17

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God – it comes direct from the Father.

The Bible was penned by approximately 40 different people over a period of about 1500 years – but there is only one author - the Father, the Holy Spirit, Jesus the Word

If God has authored the Bible then it must be true. It is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction/training to live righteously.

We can build our whole life and character on the foundation of the Word of God.

Matthew 16.18

'On this rock' –

- this rock was not a person (Peter)
- place (mountain),
- set of rules or guidelines.

The clue to what Jesus meant can be found in verse 17 – 'revealed'. The revelation of the word of God - Jesus is the Rock, the Living Word. The Father reveals to Peter who Jesus is.

Jesus will build His church on the foundation of the Word of God.

- It was founded on the Word of God.

Romans 10.17

- Our faith comes from hearing the Word of God

Psalms 119.89

- God's Word is forever settled in Heaven

Isaiah 55.11

- God's Word always accomplishes its purpose.

Joshua 1.8

- God's word will make you successful if you meditate in and follow after it.

Hebrews 4.12

- God's word is alive and active – there is *energes* (power and energy) in the Word of God. Genesis 1 the word was active and powerful at creation.

Jesus is building His church on this rock of revelation.

Hell cannot prevail against the rock – the foundation on which the church is built and established, the Word of God.

The Word is one of our great weapons that is used against the enemy – He cannot overpower and overcome the Word.