

What Is The Church
That Jesus Built?

Matt. 16:13-18

Matt. 16:16-19

- 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
- 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.
- 19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

What Is The Church That Jesus Promised To Build?

- Not...
 - A physical building
 - An ecclesiastical hierarchy dispensing God's blessings
 - A denomination (the saved were/are not added to a denomination)
- But refers to the saved – those who are called out of the world, sin and darkness, by His gospel and are added as members to His body; citizens to His kingdom; living stones in His house and become the sheep of His fold.

Church = ἐκκλησία

- Acts 19:32, 39, 41.
 - 32 Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together. ...
 - 39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly. ...
 - 41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.
- I Pet. 2:9-10 → But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10 Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

How Did Jesus Build His Church?

- Jesus built the church of living stones.
 - Matt. 16:18 → I will build my church
 - I Pet. 2:5 → you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house...(ESV)

- Jesus purchased the church with His blood.
 - Acts 20:28 → Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
 - Jesus purchased the living stones (the materials that comprise His building) with His own blood and put it together to make His spiritual house.

- Jesus cleansed the church with the washing of water.

- Eph. 5:25-26 → 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,

- Jesus built the church of those who as penitent believers are cleansed from their sins when baptized in water for the remission of sins. (Rev. 1:5-6; Acts 22:16; Acts 10:47-48)

Descriptions Of The People Of God

- The body of Christ. (Eph. 1:22-23; I Cor. 12:13)
- The temple of God. (Eph. 2:19-22; I Pet. 2:5)
- The kingdom of Christ. (Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9)
- The bride of Christ. (II Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:6-9; 21:2)
- The sheepfold of God. (Jn. 10:14-16)

The Rock On Which The Church Is Built

- On this rock, I will build my church. (Matt. 16:18)
 - Not Peter.
 - Married. (Matt. 8:14)
 - Not above the other apostles. (Gal. 2:11)
 - Did not set up a centralized hierarchy to rule over the church on earth. (I Pet. 5:2)
 - Who is the greatest? (Lk. 22:24-30)
 - Jesus has all authority. (Matt. 28:18-20)
 - But the confession made by Peter – Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Bedrock of truth and foundation upon which the church is built. (Eph. 2:20; I Cor. 3:11)

Things We Learn From Matt. 16:16-19

- The Foundation – Jesus is the Christ. (I Cor. 3:11)
- The Builder – Jesus. (Matt. 16:18)
- The Owner – Jesus. (Acts 20:28)
- When? -- Was in the future at the time Jesus was speaking.
- First one to “open the door” – Peter. (Acts 2,10)
- Those who would bind and loose what God would already have bound and loosed in heaven – All the apostles. (Matt. 16:19; Matt. 18:18)

The Church Began On The Day of Pentecost – Acts 2

- Peter is the preacher. (verse 14)
- Proclaims the gospel of the life, death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth. (verses 14-36)
- Conclusion: “God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. (verse 36 – the foundation)
- The question from the convicted: “Men and brethren, What shall we do?” (verse 37)
- The answer: “Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...” (verse 38)
- The response: Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls. (verse 41)
- “And the Lord added to the church...” (verse 47)
- “They continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine” (verse 42)

The Church – Universal and Local

- Matt. 16:18 → I will build my church.
- Matt. 18:17 → Tell it to the church.
- Acts 2:47 → The Lord added to the church...
- Acts 11:22 → The church which was in Jerusalem.
- Acts 13:1 → The church that was at Antioch...
- Acts 14:23 → Appointed them elders in every church.
- Acts 14:27 → gathered the church together.
- Acts 20:17 → called the elders of the church
- Acts 20:28 → to feed the church of God...