

WHAT JESUS SAYS ABOUT THE CHURCH MT 16:13-19

Church:

I'm going to church!

I belong to the church!

I'm working at church today!

We need to work on the church.

I missed church!

I'll drop this off at church!

What exactly did Jesus say?

1. Jesus is the builder !

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.

2. Jesus will build His church!

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

Church (ἐκκλησία) = an assembly, a congregation, a called out assembly, a church

So what exactly was Jesus taking about?

- **Something Jesus will do in the future**
- **Something yet future**
- **His assembly → so not equal to any nation/ group of people**

Acts 15:14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, **to take out of them a people for his name.**

1 John 5:19 And we know that **we are of God**, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

- **Always an “ out- of” idea → inherent in the word and concept**
- **Uniquely His**
- **Both “The” Church and a Church| churches**

Universal & local

Universal → local

Universal expressed in a local place

- **The Church throughout times & places**

3. Jesus will build His church **upon** the foundation of Peter and his confession

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee,

That thou art Peter (σὺ εἶ Πέτρος),

and upon this rock (καὶ ἐπὶ ταύτῃ τῇ πέτρῃ)

I will build my church;

and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

There is an obvious play on the 2 Greek words. That's obvious – but what's the point of the word play?

Peter (Πέτρος) a masculine word

Rock (πέτρα) a feminine word plus the article plus the demonstrative pronoun

Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock (τὴν πέτραν): **Matthew 7:25** And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock (τὴν πέτραν).

Matthew 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and **the rocks rent** (αἱ πέτραι ἐσχίσθησαν);

Matthew 27:60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out **in the rock** (ἐν τῇ πέτρῳ): and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Revelation 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in **the rocks** (τὰς πέτρας) of the mountains; **Revelation 6:16** And said to the mountains and **rocks** (ταῖς πέτραις), Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

What does this mean?

- **Not the man Peter as a man**
- **Certainly not Peter as the first Pope & supposed “Apostolic Succession”**
- **Peter as an Apostle would play a big role although never an exclusive role and also a reluctant role !**

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: **and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **Acts 2:2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **Acts 2:3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:14 **But Peter**, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, **and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles**, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Acts 8:14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, **they sent unto them Peter and John:**

Acts 10:5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

Acts 10:9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: **Acts 10:10** And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, **Acts 10:11** And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: **Acts 10:12** Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. **Acts 10:13** And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. **Acts 10:14** **But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.** **Acts 10:15** And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. **Acts 10:16** **This was done thrice:** and the vessel was received up again into heaven. **Acts 10:17** Now while Peter **doubted in himself** what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

Acts 11:18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, **Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.**

Jewish people in Acts 2

Samaritans in Acts 8

Gentiles in Acts 10

- **Peter's confession would be central to the Church!**

What do we have in **common**?

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for **the faith which was once delivered unto the saints**.

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

Galatians 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

1 Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **1 Corinthians 15:2** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **1 Corinthians 15:3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **1 Corinthians 15:4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: **1 Corinthians 15:5** And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: **1 Corinthians 15:6** After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. **1 Corinthians 15:7** After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

1 Corinthians 15:8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

4. Jesus' Church **shall endure!**

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.

Gates of hell = even death shall not overcome it!

Job 38:17 Have **the gates of death** been opened unto thee? Or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?

Psalms 9:13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; Consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, Thou that liftest me up from **the gates of death**:

Psalms 107:18 Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; And they draw near unto **the gates of death**.

Isaiah 38:10 I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to **the gates of the grave**: I am deprived of the residue of my years.

5. Jesus will build His Church (& churches) by investing great authority in us!

Us = the apostles first and foremost

Us = the church also individually & collectively

KJV	ESV	NRSV	NASB
Matthew 16:19 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.	Matthew 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."	Matthew 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."	Matthew 16:19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

Matthew 18:18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

John 20:23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.