

“Pebble Peter”: The Boulder Rock?

📍 IS PETER REALLY THE ROCK THE CHURCH IS BUILT UPON?

Matthew 16:15-19 “He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” (16) Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (17) Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. (18) I also tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. (19) I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven; and whatever you release on earth will have been released in heaven.”

📍 PETER SETS THINGS STRAIGHT

1 Peter 2:1-9 “Putting away therefore all wickedness, all deceit, hypocrisies, envies, and all evil speaking, (2) as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, that with it you may grow, (3) if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious: (4) coming to him, a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, precious. (5) You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (6) Because it is contained in Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious: He who believes in him will not be disappointed.” (7) For you who believe therefore is the honor, but for those who are disobedient, “The stone which the builders rejected, has become the chief cornerstone,” (8) and, “a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed. (9) But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:”

📍 PETER IS CONFIRMING PROPHECY

Isaiah 28:14-16 “Therefore hear Yahweh’s word, you scoffers, that rule this people in Jerusalem: (15) “Because you have said, ‘We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol are we in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it won’t come to us; for we have made lies our refuge, and we have hidden ourselves under falsehood.’” (16) Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh, “Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone of a sure foundation. He who believes shall not act hastily.”

📍 PAUL ALSO SETS THE STORY STRAIGHT

Ephesians 2:19-22 “So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, (20) being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone; (21) in whom the whole building, fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord; (22) in whom you also are built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit.”

📍 **JESUS AGAIN PROPHESED TO BE THE STONE /ROCK**

Psalms 118:20-23 “This is the gate of Yahweh; the righteous will enter into it. (21) I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me, and have become my salvation. (22) The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. (23) This is Yahweh’s doing. It is marvelous in our eyes.”

📍 **JESUS REFERENCES PSALMS 118:20-23, CONCERNING HIMSELF**

Matthew 21:42-45 “Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures, ‘The stone which the builders rejected, the same was made the head of the corner. This was from the Lord. It is marvelous in our eyes?’ (43) “Therefore I tell you, God’s Kingdom will be taken away from you, and will be given to a nation producing its fruit. (44) He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it will fall, it will scatter him as dust.” (45) When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he spoke about them.”

📍 **JESUS AGAIN ALLUDES TO HIMSELF AND HIS TEACHING BEING THE ROCK/ FOUNDATION OF THE FAITH**

Matthew 7:24-25 “Everyone therefore who hears these words of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man, who built his house on a rock. (25) The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat on that house; and it didn’t fall, for it was founded on the rock.”

So, we can clearly see that no one thought Peter was the Rock, not even Peter. Nor was it ever prophesied as such. From Jesus, Peter, Paul, then prophecy, we are clearly taught that Jesus is the Rock- the foundation stone that the church is built upon.

📍 **WHAT WAS JESUS REALLY SAYING TO PETER?**

Despite the fact that Peter denied Jesus three times in Matthew 26:69-75, and Satan possessed Peter in Mark 8:33 to try and convince Jesus not to fulfill His calling. Some still think Peter is the Rock that the gates of hell will not prevail against. Moreover, if we read Jesus’ statement with the correct background information, we can see that Jesus is talking about the confession of faith that “Jesus is the Son of God.” The profession of faith the church is built upon: Jesus being our Lord and Savior. And those who make this confession of trust and faith in Jesus will not be overtaken by the forces of darkness. We will destroy the evil works of darkness and free souls through His precious blood. So, the foundation is Jesus “The Rock & Truth.”

📍 **WHAT IS HE SAYING HERE?**

John 8:31-32 “Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, “If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples. (32) You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

@ HE IS SAYING THAT YOU WILL KNOW ME “THE TRUTH”

John 14:6-7 “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me. (7) If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on, you know him, and have seen him.”

@ LET’S READ:

Matthew 16:15-19

“He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” (16) Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

(17) Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. (18) I also tell you that you are Peter,

and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.”

Even if you still want to say peter is a rock, we can take peter at his own words that he is not the rock just one built upon the chief cornerstone. 1 Peter 2:3-5 “if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious: (4) coming to him, a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, precious. (5) You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

**SEE ALSO: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-4, GENESIS 49:22-25,
DEUTERONOMY 32:3-4, 2 SAMUEL 22:47**