

The foundation of any building is very very important. It is the foundation that will hold up the building. When we look at a building the foundation is what keep that building in place. When storms, earthquakes, heavy rains, and all other weather conditions hit it. It is the foundation that keeps it standing.

As Christians Believers on and in Christ Jesus we also must have a solid foundation. Many people that fall away it is because they do not have a good foundation. It is not up to your Family, friends, or your Pastor to laid your foundation. It is for them to provide the materials which is the Word of God. But you have to do the Work. A building owner buys the materials from Home Depot but the owner has to see to it that the foundation is laid correctly.

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV2011) ²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the **ROCK**. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it **had its foundation on the rock**. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is **like a foolish man** who built his house on **SAND**. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

There are two contrast here

1. One who hears the Word and put it to use
 2. One who hears the Word and does nothing with it
-
1. One who built on a Rock (The Wise Person)
 2. One That built on Sand (The Foolish Person)

Both Houses were hit with the same conditions

1. The Rain, The Streams and The Wind

Matthew 5:45 (NIV2011) ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

With all that is happen now in this world we can see that rain is falling on us all. On the good and the evil on the entire world. The only thing that is going to keep us is being on a solid foundation.

Not being built on what someone told you, that is Sand. But on what you know for yourself, about Jesus the Rock.

Which brings us to our text today. Turn in your Bibles, Tables or iPad to **Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV2011)**

Let's Pray

TEXT: Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV2011) ¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “**Who do people say the Son of Man is?**” ¹⁴ They replied, “Some say **John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.**” ¹⁵ “**BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?**” he asked. “**Who do you say I am?**” ¹⁶ **Simon Peter (Petros)** answered, “**You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.**” ¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, **for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.**” ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are **Peter, (Petros)** and on **this rock (Petra)** I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

A second meaning of the phrase “Son of Man” is that Jesus was truly a human being. God called the prophet Ezekiel “son of man” 93 times. God was simply calling Ezekiel a human being. A son of a man is a man. Jesus was fully God (John 1:1), but He was also a human being (John 1:14).

What we can see and learn here within these passages of scriptures

1. **Transformation:** a thorough or dramatic change in thinking or appearance.
2. **Illumination:** Giving light to something
3. **Revelation:** To be revealed or uncovered
4. **Releasing** of Authority to another: To Release authority you have to have the position to release it.

Simon, Cephas, Petros, Petra

So What's in a name?

Simon, son of Jona, was a fisherman of Galilee. It is by the name of Simon that Jesus talks to the apostle through the scriptures. There **are three events** where there are exceptions to the use of his name. Let's look at the three exceptions and a fourth reference to wrap it all up.

Prophetic Naming

Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus for the first time.

John 1:41-42 (NIV2011) The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called **Cephas**” (which, when translated, by interpretation, A stone.).

Cephas is the Greek form of the Aramaic word for stone; not a small stone nor a big stone, just a stone. **This is the very first time that Simon sees Jesus.** He never heard him preach, teach or do any miracles before this moment. When Jesus saw Simon he gave him a prophetic name which would reflect a fulfillment of God's plan for him. Three future acts by Simon that would set him apart for a special ministry. There are only two times recorded in scripture where Jesus calls Simon by the name of Peter.

Confession

The first of two times that Jesus refers to Simon by the name of Peter.

Matthew 16.16 *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

Illumination becomes Revelation

Understand that Simon is saying that Jesus is the Christ is not the **full revelation**. Andrew knew that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ, when he went to get Simon his brother. They followed Jesus because they believed he was the Christ. What set them apart from the rest of the people who would follow Jesus is the understanding that Jesus is also "**THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD.**"

Matthew 16.17 *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.*

This is the revelation, that Jesus was the Son of the living God, that made the difference from all previous "Christs(?)" that came upon the scene during those days. It is the "blasphemy(?)" that gave the Sanhedrin its excuse to have Jesus crucified.

Another prophetic naming...

Matthew 16.18 *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter (Petros a small stone a pebble), and upon this rock (Petra Big Rock Boulder)) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

At this point Jesus uses the Greek word for a small rock (**Petros**) and for a large rock (**Petra**) instead of the Aramaic based **Cephas (a stone)**. This was by design. It is the Petros (the man) declaring the Petra (**the foundational belief of the Christian Believer**).

It is this belief that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of the living God that will stand against hell and gain salvation. Everything rests on these two points.

Promise to Peter...

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.*

Here is his future ministry: binding and loosening. There is mention in scripture that whatever you forgive a man will be forgiven and that which you retain against a man will be retained (John 20.21-23).

This is one example of using the keys of the kingdom. It is the most important of the uses. It is the ministry of forgiveness and restoration. The first unique opportunity to do this is done to Simon. It is the main ministry of the church.

Re-Cap from Last week

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV2011) ²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the **ROCK**. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it **had its foundation on the rock**. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is **like a foolish man** who built his house on **SAND**. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

There are two contrast here

3. One who hears the Word and put it to use
4. One who hears the Word and does nothing with it

3. One who built on a Rock (The Wise Person)
4. One That built on Sand (The Foolish Person)

Both Houses were hit with the same conditions

What we can see and learn here within these passages of scriptures

1. **Transformation**: a thorough or dramatic change in thinking or appearance.
2. **Illumination**: Giving light to something
3. **Revelation**: To be revealed or uncovered
4. **Releasing** of Authority to another: To Release authority you have to have the position to release it.

Confession

The first of two times that Jesus refers to Simon by the name of Peter.

Matthew 16.16 *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

Illumination becomes Revelation

Understand that Simon is saying that Jesus is the Christ is not the **full revelation**. Andrew knew that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ, when he went to get Simon his brother. They followed Jesus because they believed he was the Christ. What set them apart from the rest of the people who would follow Jesus is the understanding that Jesus is also "**THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD.**"

What Are “the Keys of the Kingdom”?

The biblical passage that makes reference to the “keys of the kingdom” is [Matthew 16:19](#). Jesus had asked His disciples who people thought He was. After hearing several of the more popular opinions, Jesus aimed His question directly at His disciples. Peter, responding for the twelve, acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God. After this great confession, Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 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 16:17–19](#)).

Keys are used to lock or unlock doors. The specific doors Jesus has in mind in this passage are the doors to the [Kingdom of Heaven](#). Jesus is laying the foundation of His church ([Ephesians 2:20](#)). The disciples will be the leaders of this new institution, and Jesus is giving them the authority to, as it were, open the doors to heaven and invite the world to enter. At this point it is important to understand how, biblically speaking, one enters the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus said that, unless one is [born again](#), he will not see the Kingdom of Heaven ([John 3:3](#)). One is born again as the Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to bring about new life in a dead sinner. The content of the message is the substitutionary death of Christ and His subsequent resurrection ([Romans 10:9–10](#)). So the faithful preaching of the gospel is the key to the kingdom.

In [Matthew 16:19](#), Jesus is specifically addressing Peter, so it is significant that, in the book of Acts, Peter figures prominently in the “opening of doors” to three different groups of people so they can enter the Kingdom. In [Acts 2](#), it is Peter who preaches in Jerusalem on the [Day of Pentecost](#); about three thousand Jewish people are saved that day. Peter’s preaching had “unlocked the door” of heaven for the Jews. Later, in [Acts 8](#), the Samaritans believe the gospel and receive the Holy Spirit; again, Peter (and John) was present for this event. Peter had “unlocked the door” for the Samaritans. Then, in [Acts 10](#), Peter brings the gospel to a Roman centurion’s