

I Will Build My Church

Early Church Series

*Matthew 16:13-20***I. Introduction***A. The Retreat with Jesus in Caesarea Philippi*

1. Jesus reveals His coming death and resurrection
2. Peter's confession (v. 16)

B. Christ Promises to Build His Church (v. 18)

1. A statement that has caused confusion
2. Questions that clear up the mysteries

II. Body*A. Who Is Building the Church? (v. 18)*

1. Christ is building the church
2. He calls it His church
3. The church is built upon Christ
4. He is the Rock of all Scripture
 - a. The Psalmist's Rock (Ps. 18:31, 46; 62:2; 95:1)
 - b. Paul's Rock (Rom. 9:33; 1 Cor. 3:11; 10:4; Eph. 2:19-22)
 - c. Peter's Rock (1 Peter 2:7-8)
5. The church is on a solid foundation

B. What Is the Church? (v. 18)

1. The church is made up of all the saved (Heb. 12:23)
2. The church is the body of Christ (Col. 1:18-24)
3. The church is to bring glory to Christ (Eph. 3:21)
4. The church is the bride of Christ (Eph. 5:23-32)
5. The church is built out of living stones (1 Peter 2:5)
 - a. Peter was a stone: Christ the Rock
 - b. Stones speak of the individuality of believers
 - c. No two stones are exactly alike
 - d. Each believer is unique (1 Cor. 12:12-23)

C. How Secure Is the Church? (v. 18)

1. The gates of hell shall not prevail against it
2. What is meant by the gates of hell?
 - a. A familiar figure of speech then
 - b. The elders of the city sat at the gates
 - c. Armies were sent to battle from the gates
 - d. The gates of hell symbolize sending the forces of evil
 - e. These evil forces sent against the church (Eph. 6:12)