

THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILT

	The Foundation
	The Builder's Initiative & The Result of Building; also Man's Responsibility to Answer the Gospel's Call & Man's Resulting Walk of Faith
	Standing Against Destruction

Let the scriptures speak...

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto you, That you are Peter ([petros](#)), and [upon this rock \(petra\)](#) [I will build my church](#); and the gates of hell [shall not prevail against it](#).

My understanding is that it's a play on words in the Greek, making a contrast, in fact: 'petros' being a little rock, a stone, and 'petra' being the (large) rock. My interpretation may not be the most linguistically accurate as I don't know Greek, but the key I have retained is that the language employed brings forth a contrast between Peter and "this rock".

Luke 6:46-49

46 And why do you call me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? 47 [Whosoever comes to me, and hears my sayings, and does them](#), I will show you to whom he is like: 48 He is like [a man which built an house, and dug deep, and laid the foundation](#) on a rock ([petra](#)): and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and [could not shake it](#): for it was founded upon a rock ([petra](#)). 49 But he that hears, and does not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

Notice the parallels between Matthew 16:18 and the analogy painted in the Luke 6:46-49 passage, concerning what is being built as well as what cannot prevail against it. First Jesus is the builder who lays a foundation, then it's a man who builds and first lays that foundation based on the words of Jesus and that will stand.

Now the spiritual meaning to understand:

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that all of you should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual food; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of **that spiritual Rock (petra)** that followed them: **and that Rock (petra) was Christ.**

1 Corinthians 3:4-17

4 For while one says, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are you not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom you believed, just as the Lord gave to every man? 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that plants any thing, neither he that waters; but God that gives the increase. 8 Now he that plants and he that waters are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are laborers together with God: **you are God's husbandry, you are God's building.** 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as **a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon.** But let every man take heed how he **builds thereupon.** 11 For **other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** 12 Now if **any man build upon this foundation** gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every **man's work** shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every **man's work** of what sort it is. 14 If any **man's work abide** which he has **built thereupon,** he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 16 Do you not know that **you are the temple of God,** and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for **the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.**

1 Peter 4:14-19

14 If you be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are you; for the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. 17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the **house of God:** and if it first begin at **us,** what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Therefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 2:1-10

1 Therefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, all evil speakings, 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby: 3 If so be you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, 5 You also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 6 Therefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believes on him shall not be confounded. 7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offenses, even to those who stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous 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.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

14 Be you not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what concord has Christ with Belial? or what part has he that believes with an infidel? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? for you are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Therefore come out from among them, and be separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. 18 And will be a Father unto you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

Ephesians 2

1 And you has he given life, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conduct in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, just as others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, has given life to us together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;) 6 And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them. 11 Therefore remember, that you being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time you

were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made close by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of two one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you who were afar off, and to them that were close. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19 Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto a holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom you also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.

2 Timothy 2:19

Nevertheless the foundation of God stands sure, having this seal, The Lord knows them that are his. And, Let every one that names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

1 John 1:9

Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin; for his seed remains in him: and he cannot sin (practice willful sin), because he is born of God.

Amen!

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ANNEX

A) Recommended study of the history of the word "church" in our English bibles. Notice Tyndale's translation, the first English translation of the bible.

Matthew 16:18

And I saye also vnto the yt thou arte Peter: and apon this rocke I wyll bylde my congregacion (ecclesia). And the gates of hell shall not prevayle ageynst it.

* Controversy over new words and phrases

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Tyndale#Controversy_over_new_words_and_phrases

* Betrayal and death

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Tyndale#Betrayal_and_death

** The correct meaning of church and ecclesia

<http://www.aggressivechristianity.net/articles/ecclesia.htm>

** The Real Church of Jesus Christ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SyxbRJ0vAU>

B) Recommended study of the words 'righteous' and 'righteousness' through the concordance (see verses that contain the word).

Righteous:

<http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/dikaios.html>

Righteousness:

<http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/dikaiosune.html>