*Tuesday, October 5, 2010*

**Rock Of Ages**

Matthew 16:16-18 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. (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. (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. (KJV)

Now do take note of the fact that the church of God is not built upon Peter as some of have said, but rather it is upon the name of Christ, as what was revealed in verse 16. I mean after all, you don’t pray or come to the throne in the name of Peter do you? In fact many teach and preach in the name of Jesus and leave out Christ, leaving out the most important part of the Spiritual equation. Think it is petty or nitpicky? Well one would have to ask this question “why is the enemy considered antichrist and not anti Peter or anti Jesus?” Now if the enemy, of God and His people, is aware of the power and access that people have in the name of Christ, why are so few of God’s people not aware or should I say have not taken the time to hear the Lord’s response on who He really is as clearly revealed and spelled out in Matthew 16?

Acts 4:10-12 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. (11) This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. (12) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (KJV)

Here we see Peter preaching and explaining to the people why an impotent man was just made whole. As you see, Peter was quite specific in the name that He was preaching in and who that Stone is that God refers to throughout His word. In fact Peter is quite specific to say that there is no other name this side of heaven that is going to get you on the inside where you belong, and no longer standing outside in the dark.

Ephesians 2:19-22 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens 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 groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: (22) In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. (KJV)

Hey, how about looking at it this way, if you are going to build a Spiritual house then why not use a Spiritual blueprint, with Spiritual materials? The Bible is quite specific in pointing out who our foreman is, because we are able to follow a man who built His house upon this Rock and made it to His destination, now seated at the right hand of God. If you desire to be right with God and not left out of His kingdom then you need to know this name by heart also, so that you don’t fall for the wiles of the enemy.

1 Peter 2:4-8 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, (5) Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. (6) Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth 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 offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. (KJV)

When you are able to see for yourself who you are in Christ, and how precious this Stone that many reject truly is, it is then that you will stay put and no longer be running in circles or like a dog chasing its tail. If you notice verse 7 uses the term builders, and yet the Bible is quite clear in Matthew 16 that our Lord said that “He would build His church”. No wonder so many resemble a disaster area rather than seeing their house in order.

Malachi 3:17-18 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. (18) Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. (KJV)

God has a plan for His living stones, and a place prepared for them at the end of their walk. The Lord truly does know those that are His, because they know the name of Christ who shows them how to depart from iniquity.