

# Upon this ROCK, I will BUILD my church...



## Day Star Publications

November 6, 2009

*“In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight” (LUKE 10:21).*

Jesus said unto his disciples, “...whom **SAY YE** that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, **Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God**. 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. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter [A PIECE OF ROCK], and upon this rock [A MASS OF ROCK, CHRIST HIMSELF] I will **BUILD** [TO BE A HOUSE-BUILDER; TO CONSTRUCT] my **CHURCH** [A CALLING OUT {FROM DARKNESS}]; and the gates of hell shall not **prevail against it** [TO OVERPOWER IT]” (MATTHEW 16:15-20).*

Jesus is the **ROCK** spoken of throughout the Old Testament. He is the **FOUNDATION** that **NO MAN** can substitute (1 COR. 3:11); He is also the foundation on which a house stood, and the rain, the floods and the winds beat upon that house, and it **PREVAILED**, “...for it was founded upon a **ROCK**” (MATTHEW 7:25).

Jesus began to build His church on the day of Pentecost after the Holy Ghost entered the world and united 120 disciples of Jesus into **ONE** body (ACTS 2:1-4). After Peter preached the gospel...by **FAITH**, “...there were **ADDED** unto them about three thousand souls” (ACTS 2:41). And from that day to this, the Lord has “...**ADDED** to the church **daily** such as should be saved” (ACTS 2:47).

Jesus said to his disciples *before* the day of Pentecost that the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, would come. He is in the world on a singular mission: to **RE-PROVE** the world, that is, *prove us to be in error, and urge us to repent to God*, and “...as many as received him, to them gave he **power** to become *the sons of God*,

*even to them that **believe on his name**: which were **BORN, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but OF GOD**” (JOHN 1:12-13).*

The building process of *the church of the living God* has continued since the day of Pentecost. **We** are God's “**building**” [ARCHITECTURE; A STRUCTURE] (1 COR. 3:9). “...**WE** are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones” (EPHES. 5:30), “For by **ONE** Spirit are we **ALL** baptized [UNITED] into **ONE** body” (1 COR. 12:13).

Every person the Lord adds to his church is “...**quickened** [TO CAUSE TO LIVE; TO MAKE ALIVE; TO GIVE LIFE], who were **dead** [A CORPSE; SEPARATION] in trespasses and sins; wherein **IN TIME PAST** ye walked **according to the course of this world...** among whom also we **ALL** had **our** conversation **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, even as others.

**BUT GOD**, who is rich in mercy, for **HIS GREAT LOVE** wherewith he loved us, **even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;) and **hath raised us up together**, and made us **sit together** in heavenly places **IN** Christ Jesus: That in *the ages to come* he might show the exceeding riches of his grace **in his kindness toward us** through Christ Jesus” (EPHES. 2:1-7).

Every believer remembers when they were once in darkness, and how they were “**quickened**,” that is, made **ALIVE** by the **TRUTH** of the gospel. If your eyes have been opened, **you know it**. If you have turned “...**from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God**” (ACTS 26:18), you **KNOW IT**.

**We** “...are **BUILT** upon the **FOUNDATION** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself **being the chief corner stone**; in whom **ALL** the **BUILDING** fitly framed together **GROWETH** unto an holy temple in the Lord: **In whom ye also are BUILDED** together for an **habitation** of God **THROUGH** the Spirit” (EPHES. 2:20-22).

Jesus is the Chief corner stone: the foundation stone, that marks the **BEGINNING** of the building, the essential, most important position, for Jesus said, “...**I am the way, the truth, and the life: NO MAN COMETH** unto the Father, **BUT BY ME**” (JOHN 14:6).

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