I Will Build My Church

Tony Mauck · Matthew 16:13–20

INTRODUCTION

- When Jesus said, I will build my church, he used a very common word.
- Peter is not the rock to which the Lord refers, but it is instead the confession that he makes that Jesus is the Messiah.
- This was intended by Jesus to encourage his closest followers.

1 The Certainty: I Will Build

Revelation 2:9; Titus 1:2

- I know the plan isn't unfolding the way you thought it would, and I know that by all outward appearance it isn't working. But I will build my church.
- I know your tribulation and your poverty, but you are rich.
- Don't judge things by the way they appear outwardly. In spite of what things appear to be. The cause is not in jeopardy of failing.
- You see, the God who cannot lie promised this.
- Jesus says, I know how it looks, but I'm going to build my church. And then we see it happening. And it's still here today, two millennia later.

2 Intimacy: His People Who Hear His Voice

Ephesians 1:4; John 6:38–39; John 10:26–29

- God's plan from eternity was a group of people who would choose loyalty to him. He chose us in him before the foundation of the world.
- This is the will of him who sent me. That of all that he has given me, I lose nothing. But raise it up on the last day.
- My sheep hear my voice. And I know them. And they follow me. And I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish. And no one shall snatch them out of my hand.
- I will be their God. And they shall be my people. That's it. As long as that is who we are. Eternal life is ours.
- Is he your God? Are you his people? Do you hear his voice? Do you follow him? Is that your life? If so, there is nothing that can break your relationship with God.
- He is not just the founder and architect of his church. He is the finisher of our faith.

3 Reliability: Upon This Rock

1 Peter 2

- I will build my church upon this rock, the rock of Peter's confession.

- If you wanted to make something sound solid and trustworthy and dependable and reliable, what would you choose?
- If you don't listen to him, you're building your life on sand, sinking sand.
- Rock. This is stable. This is secure. Because of who Jesus was and is as the Son of God. That would be the bedrock of the whole thing.
- He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And we can rely upon that when all else fails.

4 The Invincibility of the Church He Builds

1 Corinthians 15; Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 21:7

- Hades couldn't keep him out. And Hades couldn't keep him in. Because he rose from the dead.
- The church of our Lord survives even to this time, just like Jesus promised.
- We have received a kingdom, the Hebrew writer says, that cannot be shaken.
- Do not be shaken by those who pervert the message of our Lord. Do not be shaken by the sometimes disappointing failures of brethren.
- Even if it means you have to die for this, be faithful unto death, I'll give you a crown of life.
- As far as God is concerned, his bride is an impenetrable fortress. Nothing shall snatch them out of his hand. The Lamb and His people will triumph.

THE CHALLENGE

This is a choice between winning and losing. This is a choice between Jesus and the world. This is a choice between salvation and destruction. What does logic suggest you should do?

MY NOTES