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How Christ Builds His Church

Matt 16:13-20

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am? Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. ” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” 20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The word church is used only here in the Gospels. It is the word EKKLESIA. It literally means to be called into an assembly.

The church Jesus builds is a spiritual church.

- v.17 Flesh and blood did not reveal it
- John 6:44 “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.

Those who become a part of the church do so by faith in Jesus.

- v.16 you are the Messiah the son of the living God.

The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ.

- v.18 You are Peter and Upon this Rock I will build my church.
- Peter-PETROS- small stone
- Rock-PETRA- large rock or mountain

The church of Jesus Christ is invincible and eternal.

- v.18-19 The Gates of Hades (Hell) will not overcome it.
- Authority on earth is given by the authority of God in Heaven.