

***It is believed that the Christian Church is founded on Peter
Matt. 16:18.***

***Is it so? We will look at statements and actions about Peter,
what the church is founded on and testimony from Jesus,
the apostles and Peter himself.***

The Following link can be referred to for an argument for Peter. Main points are quoted here.

[Scripture reveals Jesus founded Catholic Church - BC Catholic - Multimedia Catholic News](#)

Point 1 Apostolicity

Let us look briefly at the writings of the early Church. What again rings out clearly is the Church Jesus founded is “Apostolic”—that its popes, bishops, priests and deacons have succeeded in an unbroken line right from the Apostles. And according to these early church fathers, this “apostolicity” is a hallmark of the true Church.

Note: Apostolicity? The Hallmark of the true church is obedience to Christ and His commandments—all ten. Especially the 4th. The first four show our Love to God. The last six show our Love to our fellow men. Can anyone who keeps a day of worship nowhere directed in scripture other than the 7th Day be the true church?

No15.RomesChallenge. SabbathByPaul. PaulTheGentiles

Note: The word apostolic is not found in scripture, nor in the concordance and therefore could not be translated into pope. For Matt. 23:9 . . . call no man your ***father*** upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.” In regards to religious matters. And Revelation 2:13 . . . in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr,. . . Here Father is meant as a spiritual leader and ***Antipas*** is translated opposed to a substitute father for Christ—*Isa. 9:6*. Strong’s 493, 473, 3962, And we have this very phrase *Vicarius filii dei*, which translates to Vicar of Christ, the Son of God, Etc. Vicar by defined Webster also as substitute. Identify these as roman numerals see below. After Christ’s crucifixion there is no need for priest’s because Jesus is our priest. A nation of kings and priests refers to the service of the followers sacrificing their own lives for the brethren. If we need human mediation we have another source. [4Beasts24EldersCharacter.pdf](#)

Webster 1956 Vicar n, 1. In a general sense, a person deputed or authorized to perform the functions of another; a substitute in office.

Middle English: via Anglo-Norman French from Old French *vicaire*, from Latin *vicarius* ‘substitute’, from *vic-* ‘change, turn, place’

Our only and high priest See Heb. 2:17;3:1;4:14,15;5:5,10;7:26;8:1;9:11;10:21;13:11.

Heb. 6:20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even *Jesus, made an high priest* for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Auxiliary Note: ”Unbroken line”? Napoleon in 1798 “And what was then done?— The papacy was for the time being abolished; Rome was erected into a republic; the pope was carried away into exile, and died there; the college of cardinals was scattered and the whole papal machinery was thrown out of gear.” Rev. 13:3,10,12; 17:16; Dan. 7:26. But another church is represented as going into the wilderness? Rev. 12:6,17 The Title of Pope might well first be used in the Christian dispensation by Constantine.

Point 2. Peter the Apostle.

Matt. 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and ***upon this rock*** (*upon Christ*) “I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give unto thee” (all the disciples and those after them who follow Him) “the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth” (according to His statutes, Laws and Judgements) “shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was” (the Rock the Church is founded on) “Jesus the Christ.”

Note 2 distinct participants in this conversation, one Peter, and second the other Christ and witnessed by other disciples. Of the 2 who is the rock? If Peter we are faced with the following history, which certainly applied to all the apostles and to Peter. Are we to believe Christ built His church not on Himself, but on Peter? What saith the scriptures? Remember that the disciples were striving for supremacy. Matt. 20:20-28. Upon none only Himself, did He build his church.

In the Garden Christ had directed His apostles to pray. What do we find Peter doing? Matt. 26:40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? . . . 43 And he came

and found them asleep . . . Peter 51 “drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear.” . . . 54 Then all the disciples **forsook him**, and fled. 74 Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, ***I know not the man.*** . . . 75 And Peter . . . wept bitterly.

Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven (Peter's one) as they sat at meat, **and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart**, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

John 20:6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9 **For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.**

Luke 24:12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; . . . and departed, **wondering** in himself at that which was come to pass. 49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** in the city of Jerusalem, **until** ye be endued with power from on high.

Note: This occurred in Acts 2, and in chapter 4 we still have the apostles in Jerusalem (as will be seen in the rest of Acts) disregarding the Word of Christ to go to the gentiles and this is the reason for Paul's calling.

Acts 10:15 . . . What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. 16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven. 17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, . . . 28 . . . God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Gal. 2:11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. 12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. 13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews? 15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, 16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of

the law shall no flesh be justified.

Note: It is asserted that Peter led the Apostles yet in Acts 15 and here in Galatians we see Peter follow James.

The disciples direct Paul to again observe the sacrificial Law. Causing Paul's arrest.

Acts 21:22 What is it therefore? *the multitude must needs come together*: for they will hear that thou art come. 23 Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them; 24 Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law. . . 28 Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where iand further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.

Note: It should be clear that Peter had not yet been converted, for he and the Apostles were still observing the ceremonial law.

Dictionary: Convert. Having been adapted to be suitable for a new purpose: the fact of changing one's religion or beliefs or the action of persuading someone else to change theirs:

Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and *when thou art converted*, strengthen thy brethren.

Note: In Luke 22:32 we have Jesus instructing Peter that "when thou art converted, strengthen the brethren." This occurred before Christ's crucifixion. A.D. 31. Peter being given a vision to accept the gentiles into the faith in acts 10 and 11 now rejected them. Galatians 2:11-14 Refusing the very instruction by Christ Acts 9:15;10:45;11:1. Even as late as A.D. 60 in Acts 21:18-24,28, Peter hadn't given up the ceremonial law and caused the arrest of Paul. Gal. 2:18. The only record we have of Peter's conversion is his epistles Written A.D. 66. Where he describes the fruit of his struggles.

Note: By these we see that Peter was not yet Converted. His treatment of the gentiles and of Paul were the tool that exposed to Peter his true condition. We can see these reflected in his Epistles dated A.D. 66 just before his crucifixion. No one should believe that Christ's church was founded on an unconverted man. And Paul was far more dedicated to Christ in service and preaching. If anyone of the apostles

were the head of the Church it'd be Paul. Matt. 23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 . . . and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

“. . . *If God in His great mercy has traced the imperfection of any of His workmen, it is for the purpose of leading the church to shun his defects, and to imitate his virtues.* {6MR 206.1}

Point 3 Who is the Rock that the Church was to be Built on? Certainly not man!

“In 250 AD the great St. Cyprian, the martyred Bishop of Carthage, would summarize our question perfectly: “It is on him [Peter] that he [Jesus] builds the church. If a man . . . deserts the Chair of Peter upon whom the church was built, has he still confidence that he is in the church?””

Note: That rock was not Peter upon which the church was built, It Was Jesus Christ Matt. 7:24,25; John 1:15. Peter was a frail man.

Acts 4:10 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. Eph. 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, ***Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone***; 1Cor, 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of ***that spiritual Rock*** that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

Isa. 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and ***the government shall be upon his shoulder***: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Point 4. Who Did the Apostles Believe was “this Rock” that Jesus would build His church on?

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and ***they follow me***: 12:26 If any man serve me, ***let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be***: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. 13:36 . . . Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but ***thou shalt follow me afterwards***.

1Cor. 11:3 But I would have you know, that ***the head of every man is Christ***;” (not Peter) “and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

Eph. 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up *into him* in all things, which is the head, *even Christ:*” not Peter

Eph. 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church:” not Peter

John 21:21 *Peter* seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? 22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? *follow thou me.*

1Peter 1:15;2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because *Christ* also suffered for us, *leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:*

Note: 2Peter 3:15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

James 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

1John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. . . . 7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

Rev. 3:21 *To him that overcometh* will I grant to sit with me in my throne, *even as I also overcame*, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Conclusion.

John, James Jude never taught Peter as the rock of the Christian Church, or that the church was founded on him, and Paul never said Peter was. In Revelation 12:1 there appeared the form of Peter only? We have in Acts evidence that James had presided over those meetings 12:17 “Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren,” 15:13 “they had held their peace, James answered,” 21:18 “Paul went in with us unto James:”

Rev. 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with

the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:

AN elucidation of this portion of the chapter will involve little more than a mere definition of the symbols introduced. This may be given in few words, as follows:
— DAR 509.2

“A woman,” the true church. A corrupt woman is used to represent an apostate or corrupt church. Ezekiel 23:2-4; Revelation 17:3-6, 15, 18. By parity of reasoning, a pure woman, as in this instance, would represent the true church.
DAR 509.3

“The sun,” the light and glory of the gospel dispensation. DAR 509.4

“The moon,” the Mosaic dispensation. As the moon shines with a borrowed light derived from the sun, so the former dispensation shone with a light borrowed from the present. There they had the type and shadow; here we have the antitype and substance. DAR 509.5

“A crown of *twelve* stars,” the *twelve* apostles. DAR 509.6

“A great red dragon,” pagan Rome. (See under verses 4 and 5.) DAR 509.7

“Heaven,” the space in which this representation was seen by the apostle. We are not to suppose that the scenes here represented to John took place in heaven where God resides; for they are events which transpired upon this earth; but this scenic representation which passed before the eye of the prophet, appeared as if in the region occupied by the sun, moon, and stars, which we speak of as heaven.
DAR 509.8

Verses 1 and 2 cover a period of time commencing just previous to the opening of the present dispensation, *when the church was earnestly longing for and expecting the advent of the Messiah*, and extending to the time of the full establishment of the gospel church with its crown of *twelve apostles*. Luke 2:25, 26, 38. DAR 510.1

No symbols more fitting and impressive could be found than are here employed. The Mosaic dispensation shone with a light borrowed from the Christian dispensation, just as the moon shines with light borrowed from the sun. How appropriate, therefore, to represent the former by the moon, and the latter by the sun. The woman, the church, had the moon under her feet; that is, the Mosaic dispensation had just ended, and the woman was clothed with the light of the gospel sun, which had just risen. By the figure of prolepsis, the church is represented as fully organized, with its twelve apostles, before the man child, Christ, appeared upon the scene. This is easily accounted for by the fact that it was to be thus constituted immediately after Christ should commence his ministry; and he is more especially connected with this church than with that of the former dispensation. There is no ground for any misunderstanding of the passage; and hence no violence is done to a correct system of interpretation by this representation. DAR 510.2

Dictionary prolepsis: the representation of a thing as existing before it actually does or did.

Note: Of those in the church waiting for Christ were: Anna, Simon, Zachariah and Elizebeth, Joseph and Mary, the Shepherds and Wisemen, and to some degree all Israel was anticipating the Messiah.

The most plausible name we have ever seen suggested as containing the number of the beast, is the title which the pope applies to himself, and allows others to apply to him. That title is this: *Vicarius Filii Dei*, "Vicegerent of the Son of God." Taking the letters out of this title which the Latins used as numerals, and giving them their numerical value, we have just 666. Thus we have V, 5; I, 1; C, 100 (*a* and *r* not used as numerals); I, 1; U (formerly the same as V), 5; (*s* and *f* not used as numerals); I, 1; L, 50; I, 1; I, 1; D, 500; (*e* not used as a numeral); I, 1. Adding these numbers together, we have just 666. DAR 580.1

Rev. 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: ***for it is the number of a man;*** and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

Note: In rebuttal it is said you can take any name by roman numeral and come to 666. Not so, for those who do this omit letters that are used as numerals. Here none are left out. Matt. 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. 24 "For **there shall arise false Christs,** and false prophets," (apostate protestants) "and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, ***if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.*** 25 Behold, I have told you before. 26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, ***he is in the secret chambers;***" (*Vatican*) "believe it not. 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; **so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.**"