

I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH - Matthew 16:18

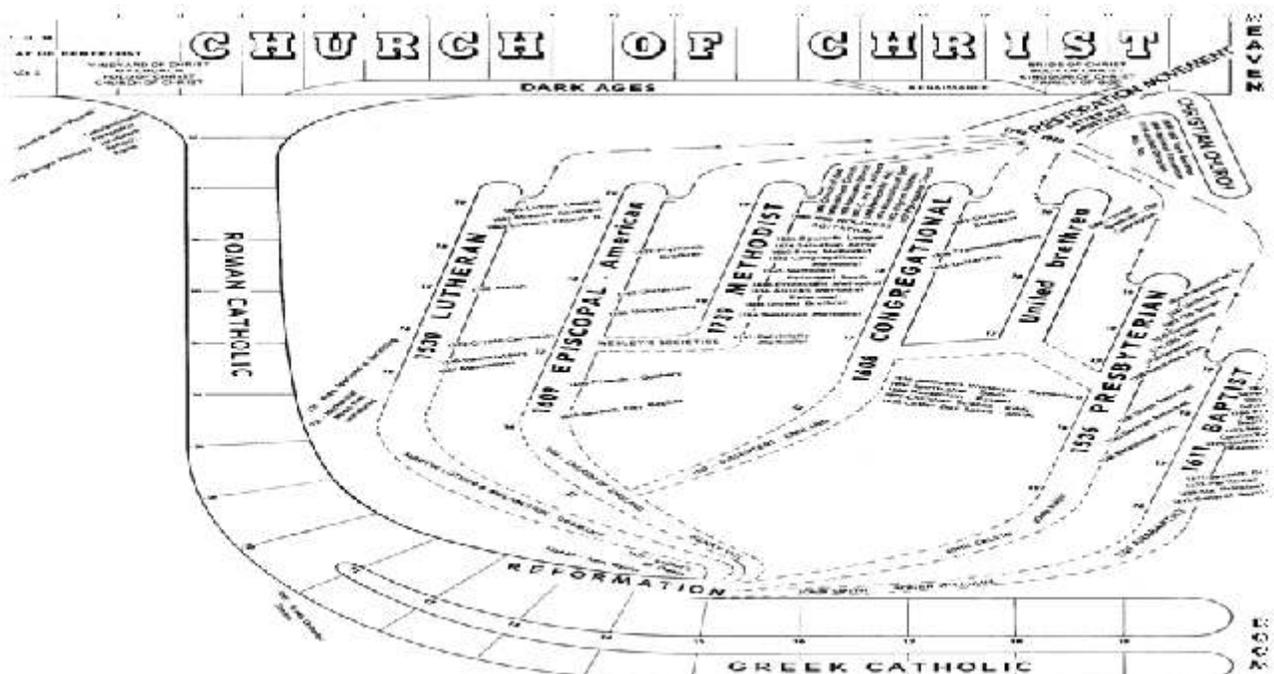
Intro:

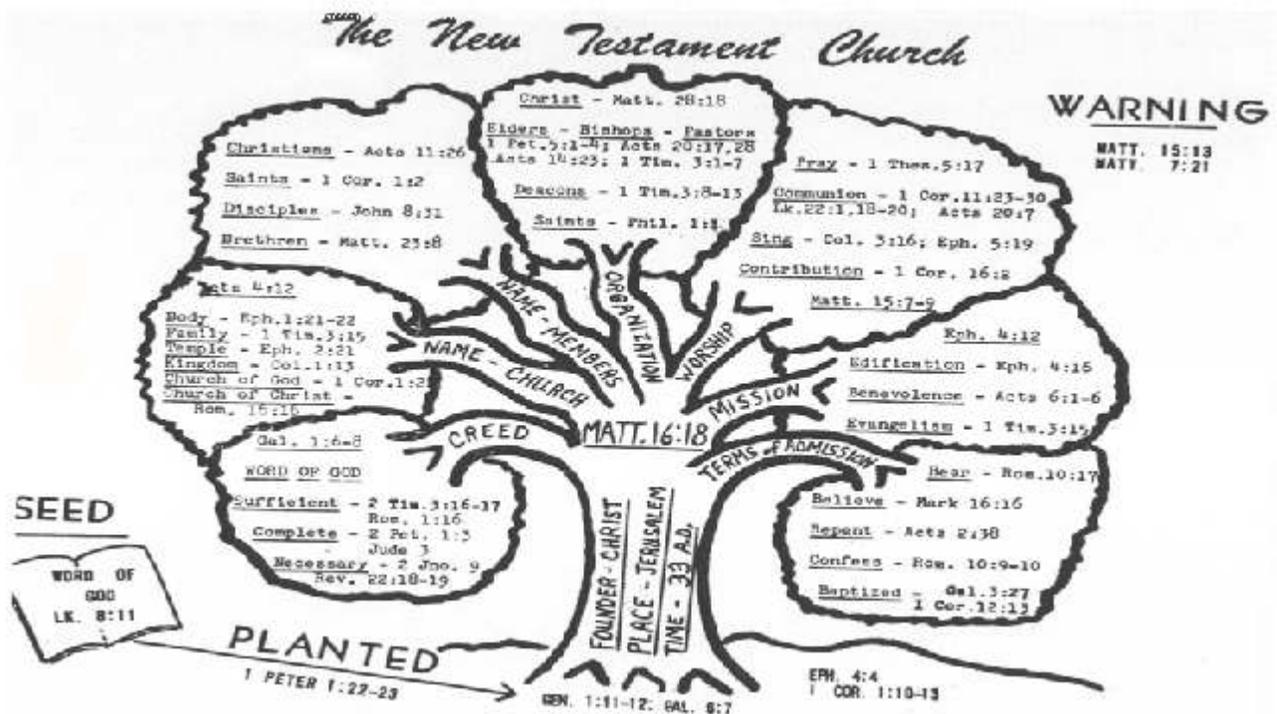
- A. The context of this setting:
 1. Caesarea Philippi ---- Situated 25 miles north of the Sea of Galilee and at the base of Mt. Hermon, Caesarea Philippi is the location of one of the largest springs feeding the Jordan River. This abundant water supply has made the area very fertile and attractive for religious worship. Numerous temples were built at this city in the Hellenistic and Roman periods.
 2. In this setting Christ made these statements:
 - a. **Matthew 16:13-20** (NKJV) ---- When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- B. From this text there are a few things which we need to note:
 1. The Foundation of It - "Upon This Rock" -
 2. The Certainty of It - "I Will Build"
 3. The Ownership, Intimacy & Singularity of It - "My Church"
 4. The Invincibility Of It - "The Gates of Hades Shall Not Prevail Against It" -
 5. Its Standard of Authority - "The Keys of The Kingdom" -

II. **UPON THIS ROCK ---- 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."**

- A. Jesus Is The Foundation of His Church – [Not Peter - ? – Petros – But ? – petra] - (1 Cor. 3:11) - 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
 1. Based Upon Who Jesus Is – (**Acts 8:37; Col. 1:15-18**)
 - a. **Acts 8:37** ---- 37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
 - b. **Colossians 1:15-18** ---- 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.
 2. Not Just His Person – But Also His Words – (**Mat 7:24,25; Heb 1:1,2; Eph 2:20; 4:4-6; 11-16**)
 - a. **Matthew 7:24-25** ---- 24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

- b. **Hebrews 1:1-2** ---- God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,² has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
 - c. **Ephesians 2:20** ---- 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*,
 - d. **Ephesians 4:4-6** ---- 4 *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism;⁶ one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
 - e. **Ephesians 4:11-16** ---- 11 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
- B. **Matthew 7:26** (NKJV) ---- 26 But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:
- 1. Jesus Is NOT The Foundation of Other Churches . . .
 - a. They Are Based On The Doctrines & Commandments of Men
 - b. Or The Lust of The Flesh –
 - c. Any Church Built On Anything Other Than The True Gospel of Jesus Christ Is Not Built On Him!
 - 2. The Foundation of It!
 - a. Chart # 1
 - b. Chart # 2
 - c. What Are Denominations?





- (1) Divided By Distinction In Belief
 - (a) Bound together by distinct beliefs
 - (b) Earthly Headquarters
 - (c) Has Earthly Human Names.

III. The Certainty of It ---- "I will Build"

- A. Jesus came for this very purpose – (Daniel 2:44; Mark 9:1; Eph 3:9,10)
 1. Daniel 2:44 ---- 44 “And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.
 - a. Mark 9:1 ----- And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”
 - b. Ephesians 3:9-10 ---- 9 and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; 10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*,
 2. Began On The First Pentecost After His Death, Burial & Resurrection – (Acts 2:47)
 - a. Acts 2:47 ---- 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.
 3. Jesus Is Still Building His Church – (1 Peter 2:5; Mark 16:15)
 - a. 1 Peter 2:5 ---- 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
 - b. Mark 16:15 ---- 15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
- B. Matthew 15:13 (NKJV) ---- 13 But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

1. Jesus Is NOT The Builder of Other Churches . . .
 - a. Men build their own churches upon their own foundations . . .
 - b. Men use their own wisdom, schemes, tactics and drawing power to build their churches . . . NOT the true gospel . . .

IV. **The Ownership, Intimacy & Singularity of It ---- “My Church”**

- A. He Purchased It – (**Acts 28:20, Eph. 5:25**)
 1. **Acts 28:20** ---- 20 “For this reason therefore I have called for you, to see *you* and speak with *you*, because for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.”
 2. **Ephesians 5:25** ---- 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,
- B. He Adds The Saved To It - (**Acts 2:47; 1 Peter 2:5**)
 1. **Acts 2:47** ---- 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.
 2. **1 Peter 2:5** ---- 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- C. He Is The Head of It – (**Eph. 5:23,24; Col. 1:18**)
 1. **Ephesians 5:23-24** ---- 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything.
 2. **Colossians 1:18** ---- 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.
- D. He Cherishes It – (**Eph. 5:25,29,30**)
 1. **Ephesians 5:25,29-30** ---- 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church.30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.
- E. He Only Has One – (**Eph. 4:4**)
 1. **Ephesians 4:4** ---- 4 *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

V. **The Invincibility Of It ---- “The Gates of Hades Shall Not Prevail Against It”**

- A. Death Would Not Prevent Jesus From Fulfilling His Promise To Build His Church – (**Matt 16:21-25**)
 1. **Matthew 16:21-25** ---- 21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!”23 But He turned and said to Peter, “**Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.**” 24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “**If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.**25 “**For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.**
- B. Death Will Not Be Victorious Over The Church - (**Acts 7:59,60; 8:1-4; 1 Cor 15:55; Rom. 8:33-39; Rev 2:10**)
 1. **Acts 7:59-60** ---- 59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, “Lord

- Jesus, receive my spirit.”⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.
2. **Acts 8:1-4** ---- Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.² And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him.³ As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing *them* to prison. ⁴ Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.
 3. **1 Corinthians 15:55** ---- 55 “O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?”
 4. **Romans 8:33-39** ---- 33 Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? *It is* God who justifies.³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?³⁶ As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 5. **Revelation 2:10** ----- 10 “Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- C. The Church Has Been Delivered From The Fear of Death – (**Heb 2:14,15; Rev 1:17,18**)
1. **Hebrews 2:14-15** ---- 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
 2. **Revelation 1:17-18** ---- 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, “**Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.**¹⁸ **“I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.**

VI. **Its Standard of Authority ---- “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven”**

- A. A key is an instrument for opening a door. He that is in possession of it has the power of access, and has a general care and administration of a house. Hence, in the Bible, a key is used as a symbol of superintendence, an emblem of power and authority. See **Isaiah 22:22; Revelation 1:18, 3:7**. The kingdom of heaven here means, doubtless, the church on earth, Matthew 3:2. When he says, therefore, he will give him the keys of the kingdom of heaven, he means that he will make him the instrument of opening the door of faith to the world—the first to preach the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles. This was done, **Acts 2:14-36, 10:1**. —**Barnes' Notes on the New Testament**
- B. Keys Represent Authority – The Power To Open, Close & Administrate – (**Isaiah 22:22; Revelation 1:18, 3:7**)
 1. **Isaiah 22:22** ---- 22 The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder; So he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open.
 2. **Revelation 1:18** ---- 18 **“I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive**

forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

3. **Revelation 3:7** ---- 7 “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, “He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”:
- C. Peter & The Other Apostles Would Open The Doors of & Govern The Church Through Teaching The Word of God – (**Matt. 18:2,18; John 20:23; 16:13; Matthew 28:18; Acts 2:38,42; 15:7**)
1. **Matthew 18:2,18** ---- 2 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, **18** “Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
 2. **John 20:23** ---- 23 “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”
 3. **John 16:13** ---- 13 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.
 4. **Matthew 28:18** ---- 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
 5. **Acts 2:38,42** ---- 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - a. **Vrs 42** And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
 6. **Acts 15:7** ---- 7 And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: “Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.
- D. Think about seeds and fruit?
1. Corn, Apple and Acorn
 2. Same is true with seeds of religion.

VII. **Conclusion:**

- A. We have noted in our Study:
1. The Foundation of It -“Upon This Rock” -
 2. The Certainty of It -“I Will Build”
 3. The Ownership, Intimacy & Singularity of It -“My Church”
 4. The Invincibility Of It -“The Gates of Hades Shall Not Prevail Against It” -
 5. Its Standard of Authority - “The Keys of The Kingdom” –
- B. The Church Is
1. A Divine Institution –
 2. A Growing Institution –
 3. A Spiritual Institution –
 4. An Indestructible Institution –
 5. The Saved – Those Who Submit To God’s Word–
- C. Christ and the Church
1. Jesus is the Saviour (**Eph. 5:23**) - And we are the Saved (**Acts. 2:41, 47**)
 2. Jesus paid the Purchase Price (**Acts 20:28**) - The church is what was Purchased (**1 Cor. 6:20**)
 3. We are His purchased possession (**Eph. 1:14**) - Christ is Our Redeemer (**Gal. 3:13; 1 Cor. 1:30; Heb. 9:12**)

4. We have been Redeemed by His blood (**1 Pet. 1:18–19; Rev. 5:9**) - Redemption is “in Christ” (**Rom. 3:24**)
 5. Redemption is unto the forgiveness of sins (**Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14**) - Christ has made Reconciliation (**Heb. 2:17**)The church are they who have been reconciled (**Eph. 2:16**) - It is by obedience to the Gospel (**2 Cor. 5:17–21**).
 6. Jesus is the Head over all things... (**Eph. 1:22–23**) - To the body which is the church (**Eph. 1:23**).
 7. This passage deals with the sufficiency of Christ in salvation (**Eph. 1:3; 2:8**) - Christ is the one who fills every need (**Eph. 1:23**)
 8. That fullness is found in the church of Christ (**Col. 1:19**) - The church is the realm where all spiritual need is satisfied (**Col. 2:19**)
- D. Is The church You Are A Part of Scriptural? IF NOT!
1. It is an addition to God’s word (**Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:5-6**)
 2. It is not as the oracles of God (**1 Peter 4:11**)
 3. It is not according to the pattern (**Hebrews 8:5**)
 4. It is another gospel (**Galatians 1:6-10**)
 5. It is of men (**Matthew 21:25**)
 6. It cannot be done by faith (**Romans 10:17**)
 7. It cannot be done in the name of the Lord (**Col. 3:17**)
 8. It is not a good work (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
 9. It does not pertain to life and godliness (**2 Peter 1:2-3**)
 10. It does not promote unity but division – (**1 Cor. 1:10-11**)
 11. It causes one to not have God (**2 John 9-11**)