

“I Will Build My Church”

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer
Calvary Baptist Church

December 12, 2021

Scripture

Matthew 16:13-18 (Mark 8:27-29; Luke 9:18-20)

“Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.’

He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**’

And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

‘I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock **I will build My church**; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.”

Caesarea Philippi

- 30 miles north of the Sea of Galilee
- Herod the Great’s son Phillip dedicated it to Caesar
- A Place of Great Evil
- Thought to be the place where demons kicked out of Heaven came down and cohabitated with women to create the Nephilim, a demon race God destroyed in the Flood
- Jeroboam (Divided Kingdom) set up his golden calf for worship
- The Pagan Tribe of Dan, excluded from the future promise in Revelation, settled here
- False God Worship Common:
 - Baal Worship
 - Temple of Augustus Caesar
 - Court of Pan (town was Pania or Banias now) – men intercourse with goats
 - Tomb of the Dancing Goats
 - Temple of Zeus
 - Children thrown alive into a cave as a sacrifice
- “What Happens in Caesarea Philippi...”
- The Worst of Satan: the most sick, cesspool of evil on the planet at the time
- “No Good Jew would ever consider coming here”
- And yet, Jesus brought the Twelve here

Jesus is Mildly Interested in Who the People Think He is

He repeatedly said to the Twelve, "Don't tell anyone about Me..."

Why Do You Think He said that?

Luke 9:21-22

"But He warned them and instructed them not to tell this to anyone, saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day."

On the Other Hand, Jesus is Really Interested in Who the Disciples Think He Is

"Who do You Say that I am?"

The Twelve is the inner group, His guys. Jesus is always surveying what THEY are picking up

Peter gets Direct Revelation from God the Father

We Can Hear Directly from God

John 10:24-28

"The Jews then gathered around Him, and were saying to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me. "But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep."

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand."

How do you hear His voice?

John 6:44 **"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."**

Peter heard -> Jesus is **the Christ** (the long-awaited Jewish Messiah)
 -> Jesus is **the Son of the Living God** ("I and the Father are One")

Ephesians 2:18-22 "Catholic Friends" -> **On This Solid Rock, Christ!**

"Through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So, then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit."

I Will Build My Church

- Men and women build buildings and create programs
 - **Psalm 127:1** "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it"
(Solomon, **the wisest man on the planet!**)
- Jesus builds His Church

How does Jesus build His Church?

He Collects - The Theology of the Gift

John 6:35-40

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. "But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. **"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.**

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. "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.** "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

John 17:6

"I have manifested Your name **to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me,** and they have kept Your word. "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You."

Jesus Receives all those that the Father has given Him to receive

John 3:16

"For God So Loved the World, He gave His only begotten Son"

For God so Loved the Son, He gave Him a People to Love and Worship Him

John 17:24

"Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world."

Ephesians 1:3-6

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, **just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,** that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love, He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us **in the Beloved.**

God, the Father, chose us to be IN Christ before the foundation of the world

1 Peter 2:9

“But you are **A CHOSEN RACE**, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR GOD'S OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”

John 15:16 -> Jesus Said: “You did not choose Me, but I chose you”

We are to collect, too...

Matthew 9:36-38

Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “**The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.**”

He Perfects – He is Renovating Us from the Inside Out

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.”

Romans 12:2

“And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

This is a renovation work inside of us...not a physical world, but a spiritual one...

Let's say that Jerry tells me he is renovating his house...

Month after month, I go over to his place and I don't see anything changing...
The rooms look the same, the walls look the same, Cheryl is in the same chair...

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”

Sometimes we do not see the renovation within us

“Gates of Hades Will Not Overpower It”

- Cave Formation at the base of Mount Hermon
- Known as “the Gate to the Underworld”
- Screams from below
- Perhaps the place of the Bottomless Pit

In a war situation, what type of equipment is a Gate?

It is for Offense or Defense?

“Defense wins championships?”

Jesus is on the attack, acquiring the souls that the Father has given Him

Why have a biblical convention in Caesarea Philippi?

Mount of Transfiguration

- Some 6-8 days later... Mark/Luke -> on Mount Hermon

Jesus is Building His Church By Taking People out of Satan's Hands

- Jesus will **Collect** all that are His
- Jesus will **Perfect** all that are His
- Jesus will eternally **Protect** all that are His

Prayer

Benediction

1 Thessalonians 5:23

“May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Order of Service

Calvary Baptist Church, Cambridge

December 12th, 2021 – 9:30 AM

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer Preaching

Welcome and Announcements

Deacon Colby Carpenter

Worship in Music

Congregation

- On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand
- Cornerstone

Offertory Prayer

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Reading of God's Word

Deacon Colby Carpenter

Sermon (Matthew 16:13-18)

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Celebration Music

Congregation

- Build My Life

Benediction

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Announcements for Sunday December 12th, 2021

Communications Update

- The new website is LIVE: www.cbccne.org
- YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCra63eoUMtj13N2Q_uamemA
- Sermon Video is online (21 views from last week's message)
 - Catch-up if you missed a message or forward the link to a friend
 - Subscribe on YouTube to get notifications of new videos
- Sign-up for Communication Updates if you haven't already (12 signed up so far)

Upcoming Events

- Potluck Dinner after Worship Service Sunday, December 19th
- Packing of Christmas Program Treats Wednesday, December 22nd at 6:00pm
- Christmas Eve Service Friday December 24th at 5:30pm

Financial Update for Sunday December 12th, 2021

Account Description	November 2021
Checking Account	\$ 87,716.85
Savings Account	\$ 1,517.98
Youth Account	\$ 402.13
Memorial Fund	\$ 30,741.92
Debit Card Account	\$ 1,000.00
Building Fund	\$ 3,013.98
Total Bank Account Balances	\$ 124,392.86
Contributions Income	\$ 3,551.00
Monthly Expenses	\$ 5,181.02
Net Monthly Cash Flow	\$ (1,630.02)

Lyrics to On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GswGE6rQhmE>)

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the vale.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

Lyrics to Cornerstone (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DAWTuGGYaw>)

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of All

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the vale
My anchor holds within the vale

Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of All

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless, stand before the throne
Faultless, stand before the throne

Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of All

Cornerstone...Cornerstone

Lyrics to Build My Life (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EU0Jrip3qHw>)

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
Oh, we live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and
Show me who You are and fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus, the name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
You're worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
Oh we live for You

Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and
Show me who You are and fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken
And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken

Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You
Open up my eye in wonder and
Show me who You are and fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken

CBC Communications Sign-Up Response

Name: _____

Birthdate: **Month** _____ **Day** _____

Address: _____

Cell Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Pastor's Weekly Newsletter:

Prayer Ministry Distribution List:

Women's Ministry Distribution List:

Men's Ministry Distribution List:

Children's Ministry Distribution List:

Youth Ministry Distribution List:

Outreach Ministry Distribution List: