

## WALKING IN WISDOM (Colossians 4:5) Number #45

John T. Polk II, Editor

All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version  
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Is Peter "This Rock," the Foundation of the Church of Christ? By John T. Polk II

**Matthew 16:13-20:** "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?' <sup>14</sup> So they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup> He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter [*petros*], and on this rock [*petra*] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> 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.' <sup>20</sup> Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ."

a. Jesus had said to "Simon Peter" **John 1:40**, "You are Simon the son of Jonah.

You shall be called Cephas (which is translated, A Stone [*petros*])" **John 1:42**

1) Why did not Jesus give Peter the name "Petra" (feminine) in this passage, to relieve any confusion later?

2) Jesus, not Peter, is referred to as *petra* in the New Testament:

**Matthew 16:18:** "And I also say to you that you are Peter (*petros*), and on this rock (*petra*) I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

**Romans 9:33:** "As it is written: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock (*petran*) of offense, And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.'" (quoting from **Isaiah 8:14; 28:16**)

**1 Corinthians 10:4:** "For they drank of that spiritual Rock (*petras*) that followed them, and that Rock (*petra*) was Christ."

**1 Peter 2:8:** "'A stone of stumbling And a rock (*petra*) of offense.' They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed."

3) There is NO original Aramaic manuscript of Matthew known.

a) If Matthew wrote it in Aramaic, God preserved a majority of Greek MSS;

b) Matthew, himself (guided by the Holy Spirit!), would have translated his book into Greek, for Greek was understood by most people then;

c) The only "Aramaism" preserved in this passage would be "Cephas," but because the Greek word makes a distinction between Peter's name and the foundation of the church, no appeal to the "Aramaic" would justify making Peter's name equal to the foundation of the church of Christ!

d) As there are no original MSS of any other New Testament Books, either!

4) Paul condemned as a "schism" any who followed Peter, not Jesus, as the authorizer of baptism or head of the church. **1 Corinthians 1:12-13**

5) When Jesus said to Peter "Follow Me" **John 21:19**, the Roman Catholic Church says it is teaching Peter's Primacy. But when Jesus tells Philip "Follow Me" **John 1:43** NO ONE suggests the Roman Church is built upon Philip!!

b. IF this clearly taught Peter's Superiority over all the other Apostles, then:

1) Why were they still disputing the issue later? **Matthew 20:20-28**

2) How were James, Cephas & John *all* "pillars?" **Galatians 2:9**

3) Then was Paul the Gentile "Pope?" **Galatians 2:7-10**

4) How was the church of Christ "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone?" **Ephesians 2:20**

c. Peter IS IN the foundation, but IS NOT "THE Foundation!"

1) The Church of Christ is "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone" **Ephesians 2:20**

2) NOTHING IN SCRIPTURE separates Peter from the other apostles in their work of establishing the church of Christ.

**2 Corinthians 11:5:** "For I consider that I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles."

**1 Corinthians 9:5:** "Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?"

3) Peter was never acknowledged as being in Rome, or its "Bishop!"

a) Paul was prisoner in Rome and wrote **Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 2 Timothy, Philemon**, but NEVER MENTIONED PETER AS BEING IN ROME!

b) Paul wrote **Romans** and saluted 27 Christians, but NOT Peter!

c) Peter wrote 2 letters, but never mentioned being in Rome!

**The "Papacy" IS The Pinnacle Of Apostasy In "The Roman Catholic Church!"**

1. "There is no difference between the Pope and Jesus Christ"

(St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* xxxiv and Papal Bull of Pope Pius V in 1570.)

2. Catholic Johann Joseph Ignaz von Dollinger, once wrote:

"In future every Catholic Christian when asked why he believes this or that can and may give but the one answer: I believe or reject it because the infallible Pope has bidden it to be believed or rejected" (*Declarations and Letters*, pgs. 101,101.)

3. Though practiced throughout the centuries under the guise of a "papal bull," the doctrine was codified on July 18, 1870, when the First Vatican Council declared by an overwhelming majority that "the Roman Pontiff, when he speaks ex cathedra, that is, when in discharge of the office of pastor and teacher of all Christians, by virtue of his supreme apostolic authority he defines a doctrine regarding faith or morals to be held by the universal Church is possessed of that infallibility with which the divine Redeemer willed that his church should be endowed."

**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS REPLACED JESUS CHRIST AS HEAD OF HIS CHURCH WITH A "TWISTED-SCRIPTURE," THUS FALSLEY-CLAIMED, SUCCESSOR TO THE APOSTLE PETER!**

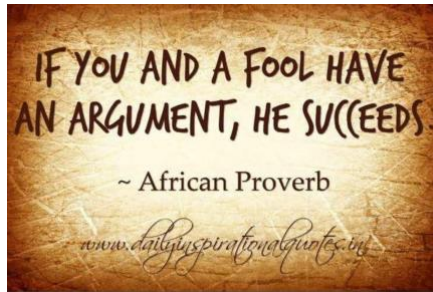
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## Free Publication: "Are We Led By The Spirit?"

<https://johntpolkll.com/files/documents/AreWeLedByTheSpirit.pdf>

Salted Speech Colossians 4:6

- ~ "Keep your face to the sunshine, and you can never see the shadow."  
- Helen Keller
- ~ "Life is inherently risky. There is only one big risk you should avoid at all costs, and that is the risk of doing nothing."  
- Denis Waitley
- ~ Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated.  
~ Confucius



### REAL TRUTH IS ALWAYS TRUTH by Sellers S. Crain, Jr.

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani after the terrorist attacks on our nation September 11, 2001 was affectionally referred to as "America's Mayor." He is now [2018] serving as President Donald Trump's lawyer. He set off a firestorm on Sunday August 19, 2018 when being interviewed by Chuck Todd on NBC's *Meet the Press* and said, "Truth is not truth." In an attempt to lessen the criticism, he stated in a Tweet on Monday August 20 that he was not making a theological statement but merely talking about when two people have their own versions of truth. Meaning that each has his or her own version of what they believe to be true.

Let's consider that for just a moment. When people have a different understanding of truth one of three things could be

involved. One could be right and the other could be wrong, or they could both be wrong. They could also hold to the Post-Modernist position that your truth is your truth, and my truth is my truth, and we can both be right. Among other things said by Post-Modernist is that there are no absolutes. If, in fact, there are no absolutes then there is no good or bad, right or wrong, black is white and white is black, light is dark and dark is light (Isaiah 5:20). If there are no absolutes that statement itself is not absolute. Two totally opposites truths on the same thing can never both be right. The prophet Amos 3:3 asked, "Can two walk together unless they are agreed?"

Over the years many things have been thought to be true and were later found to be untrue. This has been true in science, medicine, industry and other areas. While they may have been thought to have been true at a particular time, the fact is they were never really true. Real truth is always truth. Truth does not change.

When Jesus appeared before Pontius Pilate in responding to the governor's question, "Are you the King of the Jews?", He answered by saying He was "born to be a king," and He came to "bear witness to the truth" (John 18:33-37). It was at this point that Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" While He did not answer the question at this point, He did answer it in His prayer on the night of His betrayal when He prayed for His disciples. He asked His Father to, "Sanctify them by Your Truth. Your word is truth" (John 17:17). He had earlier said that the truth is both known and knowable (John 8:32). He declared Himself to be the truth when He said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6). When the Word became flesh, the Truth of God was manifested through Him (John 1:1, 14; 1 John 1:1-5). Those who seek the truth can find it (Matthew 7:7). Once you have found it, never let it go. The wise man wrote, "Buy the truth, and do not sell it. Also, wisdom and instruction and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23). Paul told us to "Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth..."

"When thoroughly scrutinized, error always exposes itself through some kind of self-contradiction. Truth alone stands the test of scrutiny." (Jeff Miller, Ph. D., *The Atheist Naturalist's Self-Contradiction*, Apologetics Press; August 20, 2018). -----SSCJr.