

Matthew – Part 8

Peter and the Rock

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Gospel of Matthew. Our topic today: Peter and the Rock

Scripture Theme Song: Praise Him the Heights (Ps. 148:1-4)

- 1) Who do you say I am?
 - a) Matthew 16:13-15 Why is Jesus asking for a personal confession from His disciples?
 - b) Matthew 16:16-17 What can we learn from the confession of Peter?
 - c) What experiences have convinced you that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God?
- 2) On this Rock
 - a) Matthew 16:18
 - b) Who is the Rock on whom the church is built? (provide Scriptural support for your answer)
 - i) Peter?
 - ii) His confession (see Matthew 16:16)
 - iii) Jesus? (Matthew 7:24-25; Psalm 95:1; 1 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 2:20)
- 3) Used by Satan
 - a) Matthew 16:21-22 – Why does Peter respond in this way to the prophecy of Jesus?
 - b) Matthew 16:23 – Why is the response of Jesus so severe?
 - c) What encouragement can we find from the fact that Peter was included with James and John on the Mount of Transfiguration? Matthew 17:1
 - d) What other disciple did Satan manipulate? Why was the final end of these two disciples so different?
- 4) How can we discern when Satan is trying to use us to hinder God’s work? How should we respond?
- 5) The cost of discipleship
 - a) Matthew 16:24-27
 - b) What is Jesus asking for here?
 - c) Is the expression “loses his life for my sake” referring to martyrdom?
 - d) What are some things you had to lose in order to follow Jesus?
- 6) Encouragement from heaven
 - a) Matthew 17:1-9
 - b) For whose benefit was this supernatural revelation?
 - c) What can we learn from the response of Peter? Matthew 17:4 (see also Mark 9:5-6)
 - d) What conversation occurred between Jesus, Moses, and Elijah? Matthew 17:3 (See also Luke 9:30-31)
 - e) Matthew 17:7-9 What important counsel from Jesus did these disciples seem to ignore?
- 7) Paying the Temple Tax
 - a) Matthew 17:24-27 – What can we learn from Peter’s response?
 - b) Why does Jesus pay the Temple Tax even though it is His Father’s House?
 - c) What lesson can we learn for our lives today?