

Jesus Wants One Church

The Church He Wants, Will Last Forever

*“He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, **you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 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.**”* (Matthew 16:16-19)

The New Testament was written in Greek. In the Greek language, the word for rock is Petra, and the name given by Jesus to Peter is Petros. What we should realize is that **Jesus didn’t speak Greek. He spoke Aramaic.** In Aramaic, the word for rock is Cephas, and **the name actually given by Jesus to Peter is Cephas.**

The only Christian church in the world that has existed, from the time of Jesus until now, is The Roman Catholic Church. The Apostles(Catholics live in the apostolic tradition) were commanded by Christ, to **complete his work on earth.**

*“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”* (Matthew 28:18-20)

St. Paul always sought unity in faith, and in all that he did, with the Catholic Church, and **respected the leadership of St. Peter (Cephas).**

“Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord’s brother.” (Galatians 1: 18-19)

*“Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up in response to a revelation. Then **I laid before them** (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders)**the gospel that I proclaim** among the Gentiles,*

in order to make sure that I was not running, or had not run, in vain.”
(Galatians 2: 1-2)

*“... When they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised(for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles), and when **James and Cephas and John**, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they **gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship**, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.”*
(Galatians 2:7-9)

*“I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **There is one body and one Spirit**, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, **one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.**” (Ephesians 4:1-6)*