

FOUNDATIONS

**THE CHURCH AND THE GATES OF HELL**

Matthew 16:13-20

Jeff Schreve

**What do we learn from the meeting at Caesarea Philippi?**

**1. All human beings are born spiritually blind.**

A. Man can never understand on his own who Jesus is.

B. Man must have illumination from God.

*"... flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father  
who is in heaven." Matthew 16:17*

**2. Jesus is building His church.**

*"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My  
church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it." Matthew 16:18*

*"And I also say to you that you are Peter [petros], and upon this rock [petra] I  
will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it."  
Matthew 16:18*

A. The church is not built on a good man, but on the God-man.  
*The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in  
whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.  
Psalm 18:2*

*For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?  
Psalm 18:31*

*The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock; And exalted be the God of my  
salvation. Psalm 18:46*

*"Is there any God besides Me, or is there any other Rock? I know of none."  
Isaiah 44:8*

B. The church is the Lord's blood-bought congregation.

*"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock ... to shepherd  
the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."  
Acts 20:28*

**3. The church will never be overcome.**

- A. The power of death cannot stop the Lord's church.
- B. The power of the devil cannot stop the Lord's church.
- C. We have the authority, power, and responsibility to preach Jesus.

**What are you doing with the greatest message ever told?**