

**And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.  
(1 Corinthians 10:4)**

Like David we need often to cry, “Lead me to *the Rock that is higher than I*. For Thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in thy tabernacle forever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah” [Ps. 61:2-4].

While the foundation of the Christian church is the teaching of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ is the chief corner-stone [Eph. 2:20]. Christ is “a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious” [1 Peter 2:3, 4].

Every soul on earth will sometime come in touch with this Stone. He will either fall on it and be broken, that he may be a new creature in Christ Jesus; or he will reject the Stone, and at last it will fall upon him and destroy him [Matt. 21:42, 44].

Blessed is the one that makes Christ the chief corner-stone in all his daily work. Jesus to-day asks us, as He did Peter of old, “Whom say ye that I am?” Our lives give the answer. Peter's answer was, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” This answer was given him from the Father.

Christ responded, “*Thou art Peter.*” In these words He acknowledged Peter as His disciple, for He had given him the name of Peter when he called him to follow Him [John 1:42].

The word “Peter” meant a stone, or a fragment of rock. Christ's manner of teaching was to use earthly things to illustrate heavenly lessons; and He took the name Peter, meaning a fragment of rock, to direct the mind to the solidity of the confession and the stability of the cause which was founded upon “the Rock,” Christ Jesus, of which Peter, when he accepted Christ as His Master, became a portion, or fragment. Every true follower of Christ becomes one of the “living stones” in the great spiritual building of God [1 Peter 2:5].

Christ did not say, *On thee, Peter*, will I build My church, but immediately changes the expression and says, “Upon *this* Rock I will build My church” [Matt. 16:13-20].

Centuries before, Isaiah had written, “Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a *tried* stone, a precious corner-stone, a sure foundation” [Isa. 28:16]. Peter and every other son of Adam has failed when tested. Christ is the only one ever born of woman that has withstood every temptation, and is a “*tried stone*,” fit to be the chief corner-stone in the great church of God.

Christ has not placed any mortal man as the foundation of His church. Sad would have been the condition of the church if it had been built upon Peter; for only a short time after he made the above confession, his heart was so full of evil and wrong conclusions that, as the record states, Christ said to him, “Get thee behind Me, Satan: thou art an offense unto Me: for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men” [Matt. 16:23].

When the Saviour comes in the clouds of heaven, those who have rejected the Rock, Christ Jesus, will call for the mountains and rocks of earth to hide them from the wrath of the Lamb [Rev. 6:15, 16]. Our enemies then will witness to the fact that “their rock is not as our Rock” [Deut. 32:31].

“Ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is *the Rock*, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He” [Deut 32:3, 4].

**Type: The rock was smitten to save the people from thirst:**

Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt **smite the rock**, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. (Exodus 17:6)

**Antitype**

**So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many...**

(Hebrews 9:28).

### **Type**

He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* **drink** as *out of* the great depths. (Psalms 78:15)

**He brought streams also out of the rock**, and caused waters to run down like **rivers**. (Psalms 78:16)

### **Antitype**

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow **rivers** of living water. (John 7:38)

### **Type**

Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and **speak ye unto the rock** before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. (Numbers 20:8)

### **Antitype**

And I say unto you, **Ask**, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. (Luke 11:9)

For every one that **asketh** receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Luke 11:10)

(The Cross and Its Shadow by Stephen N. Haskell, South Lancaster, Massachusetts: The Bible Training School, 1914, e-book, 271-273, Text Modified)