

THE so-called PREEMINENCE OF PETER

OR Is apostolic succession Biblical?

PART TWO OF TWO

Matthew 16:16-19

16

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Introduction:

a. The “pope” recently caused a stir by making comments about denominations not being the church of the bible and that Roman Catholicism was the only saved body, because it alone has “APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION.”

B. Keep in mind that peter did not, NOR does not have a successor, Judas was the only APOSTLE WHO had a successor. it was sin, not death, that ended his apostleship

Acts 1:15-26

15

And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

16

Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17

For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

18

Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19

And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

20

For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. Ps 69:25

21

Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22

Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

23

And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24

And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

25

That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26

And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

C. remember last time we noticed some facts about PETER THAT did not fit the decryption of the "pope" - among them that he was married - and was an elder.

d. People bow before the "pope" -- he extends his hand for kisses, etc., - but Peter did not accept such worship and praise

Acts 10:25,26

25

And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

26

But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

I. background concerning the keys to the kingdom and the binding and loosing

Matthew 18:18

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

a. The promise given to Peter, not restricted to him, but applicable to all the apostles - Jesus is speaking to all the apostles in the context of Matthew chapter 18.

B. Bind and loose refer to the power of deciding what was lawful or unlawful to be done in the church or what was AUTHORIZED OR NOT AUTHORIZED TO be believed. That power was exercised by all the apostles, and the New Testament is the instrument by which that binding and loosing are effected:

1. THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS TO GUIDE ALL THE APOSTLES IN ALL TRUTH

JOHN CHAPTERS 15-17

2. ALL THE APOSTLES WERE PROMISED THE MIRACULOUS ABILITY TO BE GIVEN THEM BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

MARK 16:14-20

14

Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

19

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

3. THE HOLY SPRIT CAME IN BAPTISMAL MEASURE TO ALL THE

APOSTLES ON PENTECOST

ACTS 2:1-4

1

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

C. PETER DID GET TO BE THE FIRST TO USE THE VARIOUS KEYS TO THE KINGDOM, HE WAS THE FIRST OF THE APOSTLES TO STATE WHO JESUS IS

MATTHEW 16:16

16

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

BUT HE DID NOT USE THESE KEYS TO THE EXCLUSION OF THE OTHER APOSTLES- KEEP IN MIND ON PENTECOST, PETER WAS STANDING UP, NOT ALONE, BUT WITH THE ELEVEN

ACTS 2:14

14

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

II. PETER'S use of the keys to the kingdom for the first times:

A. HIS FIRST SERMON, PREACHED UNDER THE NEW TESTAMENT, WAS RECORDED

Acts 2:14

14

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

B. He uSED A KINGDOM KEY TO UNLOCK the secret of the Davidic kingdom

Acts 2:31

31

He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. Ps 16:10

C. He USED THE KEY TO unlock the secret of HOW people enter the kingdom

Acts 2:38

38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

D. He unlocked the door of return for WAYWARD MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

Acts 8:13,22

13

Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15

Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16

(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17

Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

18

And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19

Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20

But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

21

Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22

Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

E. He unlocked the door of faith to the Gentiles

Acts 10:1

1

There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band,

F. He unlocked the mystery of the new name

I Peter 4:16

16

Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

G. He elaborated ON THE mystery of the new birth

I Peter 3:21

21

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

H. He FORETOLD THE ultimate fate of the earth

II Peter 3:11-13

11

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12

Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Isa 65:17, 66:22

Conclusion:

a. Jesus, not peter or any other man, is the head of the church in heaven and on earth

Matthew 28:18

18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Ephesians 5:23

23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

b. Peter was a great man, an apostle of Christ, but still just a man.

c. Jesus is the only head of the church and he died for it and no other

Acts 20:28

28

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

d. Why not submit to his authority and become a Christian, a member of his church?