

Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — September 18, 2022

Sermon Notes: “Rocky’ Bar-Jonah,” [Matthew 16:13-23](#), by Brandon Harris, Teaching Pastor. Old Testament Reading: [Psalm 2](#); New Testament Reading: [1 Corinthians 3](#)

Last week: ([Matthew 16:1-12](#))

- Regional authorities monitoring Jesus
- Religious leaders rejecting Jesus
- Jesus defies expectations.

This week: ([Matthew 16:13-23](#))

Breakdown of this passage:

- Jesus asks a question of identity (Who is He?)
 - ⇒ All disciples respond (Prophets)
- Jesus ask a question of His identity (Who am I?)
 - ⇒ Peter responds (The Messiah)
- Jesus speaks to Peter’s identity (You are “Rocky”)
 - ⇒ Jesus responds with blessing (“the rock”).

What was the religious affiliation of the people of Caesarea Philippi?
([Matthew 16:13a](#))

The city is at the foot of Mount Hermon. What was that location know for?

Jesus uses the term “Son of Man” most often when referring to himself. He asks the disciples who do the people say He is. How do they respond? ([Daniel 7:13-14](#); [Matthew 16:13-14](#); [Revelation 1:12-18](#))

Jesus now asks the disciples who do they think He is? Remember as of late, Jesus has work many miracles and healing, but He has also directly challenged the religious leaders. How many of them are now ready to make the full commitment to their belief? ([Matthew 16:15](#))

In Peter’s response, he include that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Why might it be significant that Peter that “living God” given where they were at the time? ([Matthew 16:16](#); [Psalm 2:7-9](#))

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After Peter's confession, Jesus calls him blessed. Which of these are the reason Peter has been blessed: ([Matthew 16:17](#))

1. Could Jesus be congratulating Peter for his Sherlockian abilities of observation and deduction? or
2. Someone else, one of the disciples, told Peter what was really going on? or
3. Peter's now found ability to confess Jesus as the Messiah via revelation from God the Father?

Jesus denounced cities in the region, like Caesarea Philippi, because they did not repent even though he performed many miracles there.

([Matthew 11:20-24](#))

To who and how do we know that Jesus is the Messiah, the son of the living God? ([Matthew 11:25, 27](#))

Interpretations of [Matthew 16:18](#):

Peter is NOT "this rock"	Peter IS "this rock"
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Peter" Petros (m) pebble• In 1 Peter 2:8: Jesus is the "rock"• "This rock" is Peter's <i>confession</i> of Jesus as the Messiah• Why not say "upon YOU"?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Word play, and in Aramaic is the same ⇒ Kepha & Kepha "rock" & "rock"• In John 1:42b: Simon son of John becomes "Cephas" [Aramaic : Kepha] (which, when translated, is Peter)• In 1 Peter 2:5: Christians also are "stones"• "This rock: is Peter as <i>confessor of Jesus as Messiah</i>

What is the significance of "keys", "binding" and "loosing"? ([Matt. 16:19-20](#); [Matt. 18:18](#))

Jesus' identity is a matter of Utmost Importance, Devine Revelation, and Our Identity.

Additional Notes:

Internet Resources: [The Bible Project: Matthew 1-13](#); [The Bible Project: Matthew 14-28](#); [Matthew Overview Poster](#)

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