



SERIES:	60 I & 2 Peter - Rock Solid - 2013
MESSAGE:	A Pebble, a Boulder & a Solid Foundation
SPEAKER:	Skip Heitzig
SCRIPTURE:	I Peter 1:1

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Peter is the most famous of the apostles, even though he only wrote two short epistles in the New Testament. But of all the early followers of Christ, Peter is perhaps the most relatable to us since he demonstrates all the weaknesses and failures we see in ourselves. But Peter's personal life and his writings become a composite model of "strength through trust." Any weak, wobbly, failure-ridden person can become *Rock Solid* through Christ.

DETAILED NOTES

I. Introduction

- A. The leaning tower of Pisa
 1. Unstable foundation
 2. A building is only as good as its foundation
- B. Jesus spoke of building your house on the right foundation (see Matthew 7:24-27)
 1. House built on the sand
 2. House built on a rock
 3. Rains, floods, winds
 4. The house on the sand fell
- C. Peter wrote I Peter & 2 Peter
 1. Name means rock
 2. One of the earliest followers of Christ
 3. When studying the life of Christ, study His followers

II. Who Peter Was

- A. His birth-name was Simon, meaning one who hears
- B. Inaccuracies about Peter
 1. The first Pope
 2. Peter at the gate
- C. The real Peter
 1. Fisherman
 2. Born at Bethsaida
 3. Later moved to Capernaum
 4. He had a brother, Andrew
 5. His father was named John or Jonas
 6. His Hebrew name was Simon bar Jonah
 7. Peter was married
 - a. His mother-in-law lived with him
 - b. His wife was mentioned in Mark 1:29-30 and I Corinthians 9

8. He was a leader among the 12
 9. Peter was a disciple
 - a. All rabbis had disciples
 - b. Jesus described discipleship very narrowly (see Luke 9:23)
 - c. We will never experience the thrill of God working through us until we have the experience of God working in us
 - d. A lifelong process of conformity to His will
 10. He was impulsive, impetuous, and strong-willed
 - a. Simon told Jesus He wouldn't be killed (see Matthew 16:21-22)
 - b. He cut off a guy's ear when he came to arrest Jesus (see John 18:10-11)
 11. He was self-confident (see John 13:37)
 12. He was prideful (see Mark 10:28 and John 13:8)
 13. He struggled with legalism and hypocrisy (see Galatians 2)
 14. He was so human that we all relate to him
 15. He was tenderhearted (see Matthew 17:4)
- D. Jesus spoke more to Peter than to any other disciple
- E. Peter died around AD 67-68 in Rome—crucified up-side down
1. They crucified him up-side down
 2. His wife died in the same manner
 3. Herod was going to kill him with a sword (see Acts 12)
- III. Who Peter became
- A. An apostle
- B. First there was a name change (then a status change, then a heart change)
1. Name change—it's not uncommon for the Lord to change people's names
 - a. Abram was changed to Abraham (see Genesis 17:5)
 - b. James and John were called Sons of Thunder (see Mark 3:17)
 - c. Levi changed to Matthew
 - d. Jesus looked at him and renamed him Rocky he saw both who he was and who he would become (see John 1:40-42 and 1 Samuel 16:7)
 - e. He was often referred to as Simon even though his name was changed
 - i. That was his historical identity
 - ii. When he acted like his old self
 - iii. The two names represented two sides of his character
 2. A status change
 - a. He was changed from a disciple to an apostle
 - b. Apostle speaks of an expedition that would go out and represent a king or kingdom
 - c. Disciples would be changed from disciples to apostles (see Matthew 10)
 - d. The Bible uses the term *apostle* in two ways
 - i. Very strict sense: refers to the original 12 who followed Jesus—handpicked and personally commissioned—there are no more of them
 - ii. A secondary sense refers to those who were sent out representatives (i.e., Barnabas, Paul, Silas, Timothy, Andronicus, and Junia)—missionaries
 - e. Healthy progression—convert, disciple, apostle

- i. Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, I also send you" (John 20:21)
 - ii. Author Hollis Green said, "Churches die when converts don't become disciples, and when disciples don't become apostles."
 - f. Three important stages of growth:
 - i. True conversion, genuine repentance, surrender to Christ
 - ii. Become a disciple, deny yourself, take up your cross daily and follow Christ
 - iii. Discover your sphere of influence in which you are sent out to represent Christ
- 3. A heart change
 - a. After Peter denied Jesus; and after the resurrection
 - b. Jesus went to Peter and commissioned Peter
 - c. Jesus asked three times, "Peter do you love me?" (see John 21:15-19)
 - d. Jesus restored Peter and entrusted His flock to Peter
 - e. Peter had a deep heart change
 - i. Went on to preach at Pentecost (see Acts 2:14-36)
 - ii. Preached to Cornelius (see Acts 10)
 - iii. Oversee the growth of the church in Antioch
 - f. God is patient with leaders; He is developing them
 - g. Peter became the rock

IV. Closing

- A. Peter wrote to the scattered believers in Asia Minor; in newly formed churches
- B. The very first time Jesus uses the word *church* (see Matthew 16:15-18)
- C. Jesus built His church on what Peter said, not on Peter
 - 1. In Greek
 - 2. Peter = pebble, *petros*
 - 3. What Peter had just said about Jesus = large, massive stone, *petra*
- D. Paul said, "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11)
- E. One of the great themes of this letter from Peter is suffering
 - 1. Suffering in the will of God
 - 2. Living victoriously in the midst of hostility
- F. We will learn about:
 - 1. How to live now as we wait for the coming of Christ
 - 2. God's foreknowledge and election
 - 3. Our eternal inheritance, holiness, excellent behavior
 - 4. The Word of God causing growth
 - 5. Our responsibility to human government
 - 6. The marriage relationship
 - 7. Defending the faith
- G. The Leaning Tower of Pisa
- H. You never know when a storm is coming
 - 1. Build on the rock (see Matthew 7:24-27)
 - 2. Each of us should make a stand on the solid rock of Jesus

Greek Terms: Πέτρος; Peter, Peter, a Greek name meaning rock, such as a small rock found along a pathway; πέτρα; rock, a rock, ledge, cliff, cave, stony ground, a mass of connected rock

Hebrew Terms: שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּרֶךְ יוֹנָה; Simeon bar Jonah, Simon son of Jonah

Publications Referenced: *Why Churches Die* by Hollis Green

Cross references: Genesis 17:5, 1 Samuel, Matthew 7:24-27, Matthew 10, Matthew 16:15-18, Matthew 16:21-22, Matthew 17:4, Mark 1:29-30, Mark 3:17, Mark 10:28, Luke 9:23, John 1:40-42, John 13:8, John 13:37, John 16:7, John 18:10-11, John 20:21, John 21:15-19, Acts 2:14-36, Acts 10, Acts 12, 1 Corinthians 3:11, 1 Corinthians 9, Galatians 2

Topic: Peter

Keywords: Jesus, Christ, foundation, church, hope, apostle, disciple