

The Church Founded on the Pentecost after Christ's Death—A Mark That Matters

Jesus said: "On this rock I will build my church (Mt 16:18)." Paul taught: "For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ (I Cor. 3:11)." Paul described Christ as the "chief corner stone (Eph. 2:20)." Peter explained that the Lord was "a living stone, rejected indeed of men, but with God elect, precious . . . A chief corner stone." (I Pet. 3-6). *The founder of the church was Jesus Christ.*

The Lord's church was founded on the Day of Pentecost after his death.

Three significant events identify the exact day of the founding of the church:

- John the Baptist died before Christ said: "I will build my church."
- Jesus said, "There are some here . . . who shall no wise taste of death, till they see the kingdom come with power."
- On the Day of Pentecost after Christ's death, "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."

John the Baptist did not found the church nor was it founded in his day.

The death of John is described in detail in Mt. 14.1-12: " And he sent and beheaded John . . . And his disciples came, and took up the corpse, and buried him; and they went and told Jesus. It was two chapters later that Matthew recorded that Christ said: " I will build my church (Mt. 16:18). Therefore, John the Baptist was not the founder of the true church and the founding of the church did not happen in his lifetime.

Some people living at the time of Christ would see the kingdom come with power. Jesus said in Mk. 9:1:"There are some here . . . who shall no wise taste of death, till they see the kingdom come with power." Jesus told his disciples in Lk. 4:49 to wait in Jerusalem for this power: "Stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." On the Day of Pentecost after Christ's death, they received power in the form of a blowing of a violent wind, tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each one of them, the filling of the Holy Spirit, and the ability to speak in languages (Acts 2:1-4). From that day forward the kingdom is spoken of as being in existence. Paul said: "He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves (Col. 2:12). John likewise said: "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and has made us to be a kingdom . . . (Rev.1:5-6)." Any Church founded before or after the Day of Pentecost can not be the church in the New Testament.

The saved are added to the church for the first time on the Day of Pentecost. Acts 2:47 teaches: "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." From this point onward in the New Testament, the church is spoken of as being in existence. The church of the New Testament was not founded in 325 AD, in 606 AD, at anytime during the Protestant Reformation Age, nor as the result of some latter day revelation in the 19th or 20th centuries. The Lord established his church on the Day of Pentecost after his death.

When the church was founded is a mark that matters. Any church founded before the Day of Pentecost is not the true church. Any church founded after the Day of Pentecost is not the true church.

The Church Founded on the Pentecost after Christ's Death

The Church Could Not Have Been Founded by John or in His Day!

The Saved Were First Added to The Church on This Pentecost

John the Baptist died before Christ said, "I will build my church (Mt.16:18)."

Before Pentecost the kingdom and church are prospective; afterward, retrospective!

"This is that spoken of by the prophet Joel. . . .Before that day come, that great and notable day." Acts 2:16-20

"And the Lord added to the church daily those that were being saved." Acts 2:47

"He brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves." Col. 2:12

"To him . . .that has made us to be a Kingdom." Rev. 1:5-6

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John the Baptist: to prepare the way for Christ. Mk.1:1-3

John the Baptist, beheaded by Herod. Mt.14:1-12

Jesus said: "Upon this rock I will build my church. Mt.16:18

Some shall not die till they see the kingdom come with power. Mk.9:1

Disciples told to wait in Jerusalem for power. Lk. 24:49

They received the power on Pentecost. Acts 2:1-4

The Church Was **Not** Founded:

- In 325 AD
- In 606 AD
- During the Protestant Reformation
- As a Result of Some Latter Day Revelation in the 19th or 20th Century

The True Church Was Founded by Christ, in Jerusalem, on Pentecost

The Church Founded on the Pentecost after Christ's Death

Questions and Answers

1. Who said I will build my church (Mt. 16:18)? _____
2. What is the foundation of the church (I Cor. 3:11)? _____
3. What other foundation can be laid? _____
4. Describe the chief corner stone (I Pet. 3-6). _____

5. Describe three events that identify the exact day of the founding of the church: Mt. 14:1 _____
Mt. 16:18 _____ Acts 2: 37-47 _____
6. Which came first, John's death (Mt. 14:1-12) or the statement, "Upon this rock I will build my church (Mt 16:18)." ?

7. Who does Mk. 9:1 teach will see the kingdom come with power? _____
8. For what did Jesus tell his disciples to wait in Jerusalem in Lk. 24:49? _____
9. What were the three showings of power on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4? _____

10. In Col. 1:12, how did we get into the kingdom of the Son of his love? _____
11. In Rev. 1: 5-6, what did Jesus make us to be? _____
12. What happen to the saved on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:47)? _____

13. In what four times could the church *not* have been established? 1. _____
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
14. Was the true church founded before the Day of Pentecost? _____
15. Was the true church founded after the Day of Pentecost? _____
16. When was the true church established? _____
17. Where was the true church established? _____
18. By whom was the true church established? _____