

Chapter 13. The First Apostle

Matthew 10:2, Now the names of the twelve apostles are these:

The first, Simon, who is called Peter...

Peter asks to be able to walk on the water.

(Matthew 14:25, 27-29) And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the water. And straightway Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer, it is I; be not afraid." And Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it be you, bid me come to thee on the water." And he said, "Come." And Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, "Lord, save me."

Peter is the first to proclaim that Jesus is the Christ.

(Matthew 16:15-18) Jesus asks, "Whom do you say that I am?" And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Jesus said, "And I say also to you that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Peter is not the "rock". Jesus is the "Rock", according to Peter's declaration.

Peter rebukes Jesus.

(Matthew 16:21-23) From that time forth began Jesus to show to his disciples how that he must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "Be it far from thee, Lord; this shall not be unto thee." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, satan. Thou art an offense unto me, for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men." My personal lesson for me is, "don't argue with Jesus", and don't think you know better than he does.

Peter calls for three tabernacles.

(Matthew 17:1-5, 16) And after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, his brother, and brought them to a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them, and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elias, talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you will, let us make here three tabernacles; one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." Peter, wanting to do the right thing, according to his own understanding, misspoke. The next verse sets them straight: While he (Peter) yet spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear ye him." My lesson is, "man-made places cannot exalt the Lord." "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

CONSIDER THESE: PETER, THE FIRST APOSTLE