

THE ROCK TO BE or ROCK MAN *to Fisherman*

I. Peter's Roots

A. Family. Son of Jona, Mt 16:17. Son of John, Jn 1:42. From Bethsaida, 1:44 but later Capernaum, Mk 1:21, 29. Fisherman family. Brother Andrew and associated with Jas and Jn, sons of Zebedee in fishing business. Father perhaps dead bec not mentioned. Married, Mk 1:30.

B. Education. None in rabbinic schools, Acts 4:13. But would have been able to read and write Aramaic and some Greek (widely used in Decapolis) with Galilean accent, Mt 26:73.

II. Peter's Name change and 1st encounter with Jesus, Jn 1:35-42.

Jn Bap said 1:36. Andrew and John followed Jesus and stayed with him overnight, 39. That convinced them that Jesus was Messiah. Then Andrew brought (some hesitation on Peter's part?) Peter to Jesus. "Perhaps the greatest service to the church that a man ever did." Andrew always bringing someone to X in Jn (6:8;12:22). Searching, penetrating gaze, 42. Also Luke 22:61 where X predicted Peter's denial. Simon=Simeon, full of impulsiveness who might only bring mischief to Messiah's program. Peter impulsive, volatile, unreliable in gospels. X saw limitations and weaknesses in Peter and also potential. Petros=detached piece of larger ledge of rock. Naming indicated (1) authority of giver, 2 Kings 23:34 and (2) character of the receiver. Would be a long time (3+ yrs) before this was true of Peter. Rocks are formed by heat, pressure, upheaval. So with Peter and all of us. Our name is Christian (one who belongs to, devoted to X--like Herodian).

III. Peter's Early Days with Christ, Jn 1:43-3:30.

To Cana and miracle. Capernaum, 2:12. Jerusalem for 1st Passover, 2:22. Judea, 3:22;4:2. Samaria, 4:8. No indication that the disciples had given up their fishing business in Bethsaida and Capernaum. Yet they were disciples but had not left all. This stage of Peter's life lasted 9 months. Yet all this time he was developing in his relationship and thinking about Jesus.

IV. Peter's Definitive Call to Full Obedience, Luke 5:1-11. (Called before in Matt 4:18-22 ?)

A. The Scene, 1-3. Used Peter's boat in order to be able to speak to

the crowd.

B. The Spoken Command of Jesus, 4-5. To us: the Bible. Why obey? Just bec He says so. Master in v.5 epistata, means superintendent, overseer, used of officials.

Don't offer excuses like (1) What friends will think. Other fishermen who had used the other boat.

(2) What we think best. X commanded ^{in 2} 2 things contrary to good fishing--go to deep and in daytime. Peter knew habits of fish, hours and spots to catch them

(3) What circumstances may seem to dictate. Preceding night had been fruitless.

(4) Fear, v. 5, of X's reputation if caught nothing and perhaps of Peter's too.

C. The Results, 6-11. (1) Success, 6-7.

(2) Peter saw himself as sinful man in face of who Jesus was. Peter was a expert fisherman, well-off business man, mature adult, but sinful. Kurios in v. 8.

(3) Stop being afraid, 10.

(4) Commissioned to catch people alive, 10. Capture them for X. Only here and 2 Tim.2:26.

(5) Total abandonment to Jesus as personal Lord and Master. In his case meant leaving home, family, business.

(6) Still would backslide and act unbecomingly. Luke 18:28 (what reward for leaving?) and Luke 22:24 (who will have place of prominence in coming kingdom?).

*Simeon - Gen 34 Rape of Dinah by Shechem. Be vic. Simeon her murderer
Jacob displaced. V. older man. 49:5-7.*