

THE FUTURE OF JESUS' MISSION ON EARTH IS SECURE

Mark 8:27-30

(Matthew 16:17, 18)

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' end was near-needed to be with the 12 disciples-3 VITAL questions:-

- a. Was there anyone who understood him?**
- b. Was there anyone who recognised him?**
- c. Were there any who would carry on his work? A few would be enough!**

A DRAMATIC BACKGROUND

Homeless penniless Galilean carpenter

*** In the shadow of ancient gods of
Syrian Baal worship**

*** A deep cave where Pan was born**

*** The source of the Jordan**

*** The great white marble temple built
by Herod the Great for Caesar**

THE BURNING QUESTION- WHO AM I?

**The most important question humans
will ever have to answer-includes you**

*** John the Baptist?**

*** Elijah?**

*** Jeremiah**

All now dead-no comparison

**No other World Religion has a living
head**

THE DISCIPLES' VERDICT?

**Peter gave the only adequate answer
You are the Christ, the Son of the living God
(Matthew)**

You are the Christ (Mark)

You are the Christ of God (Luke)

TWO GREAT TRUTHS

1. Human categories inadequate

2 Jesus asked 'what about you?'

For Peter, a personal discovery

PETER THE ROCK BUT WHAT ROCK?

'blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter (petros), and on this rock (petra) I will build my church'

A Jesus

B Truth that Jesus is the Son of God?

C Peter's faith

D Peter is the first stone of the church

WHAT IS OUR MESSAGE TO THOSE SEEKING GOD?

FIGURES FROM THE PAST CANNOT:-

***open the door to the presence of God**

***cannot bring you forgiveness**

***cannot answer life's 3 questions:-**

a. Who am I?

b. What am I here on earth for?

c. Where is my life Heading?

IRRESTISTIBLY DRAWN? YOU?