

## Rock Solid: Mountains & Mediators:

**Intro Song:** "B 16 Bomber" by Fr. Stan Fortuana

### Intro Prayer:

Almighty and Everlasting God,  
You have given the human race  
Jesus **Christ** our Savior as a model of humility.  
He fulfilled Your **Will** by becoming **Man**  
And giving His **life** on the Cross.  
Help us to bear **witness** to You  
By following His example of suffering  
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.  
We ask this through our **Lord Jesus** Christ, Your Son.

MARY, Mother of Jesus,  
you were Jesus' gift for us from the Cross.  
He gave you to us as our mother.  
Intercede for all our needs.

## Why the "Rock" of Matthew 16?

### Looking back!

#### Gen. 2:15 - Adam & Eden

1. [15] The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

**Note:** Targums link this to Temple Mount. Also, images from Gen. 1 Water receding, dry land appearing.

#### Gen. 8:13 - Noah & Ararat

1. [13] In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the

month, the waters were dried from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry.

**Note:** Waters recede like in Gen 1, Man is PLACED on MT. like in Gen 2, Animals are present, and dominion is given to Man over them, a NEW covenant is struck, and a vineyard is built.... like a New Eden with as NEW Adam .

### **Gen. 22:2 - Abraham & Moriah**

1. [2] He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Mori'ah, and offer him there as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

**Note:** Again places (leads) Man to a Mountain top, again there are animals involved, dominion is given to Man over them, and again, the covenant is reaffirmed with Man, who is set apart for God. All... marked with Sacrifice! This is the same spot the Temple would be built later... same mountain Christ would be sacrificed on.

### **Exodus 19:16 - Moses & Siani**

1. [16] On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

**Note:** Once again... God leads MAN to a NEW mountain, and swears a NEW covenant with him. Once again there are animals and dominion is given to man, and sacrifice is involved. The cloud, the presence of God, like a tulmut... remind you of the Great flood with Noah? Or maybe the cloud that fills the Temple, or the cloud that speaks on behalf of Jesus, or takes him up to heaven?

### **1 Kings 8:6 - King Solomon & the Temple Mount**

1. [6] Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim.

**Note:** Sacrifices are again made with so many animals that they couldn't even be counted... the Ark of the Covenant is placed in the inner sanctuary & the Glory cloud fills the Temple. Like Moses at Sinai, ALL the people are gathered, and the PRINCE of the People, Solomon is leading the Liturgy. Like Eden, there are pools of water, and flowing water, and trees, and fruits, and zoo's of animals, and the TREE of Life in the Candle stand the great Manorah!

**But the DAY will come when a NEW Covenant, with a NEW Mediator, on a NEW Mountain will arrive!**

**Isaiah 2:2&3 - The Coming Messiah - Almost repeated exactly in Micah 4:1&2**

1. [2] It shall come to pass in the latter days
2. that the mountain of the house of the LORD
3. shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
4. and shall be raised above the hills;
5. and all the nations shall flow to it,
- 6.
7. [3] and many peoples shall come, and say:
8. "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
9. to the house of the God of Jacob;
10. that he may teach us his ways
11. and that we may walk in his paths."
12. For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
13. and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

**Note:** A rising Mountain... the precessing forth of the Law & the ingathering of ALL 12 Tribes & EVERY Nation!

**Daniel 2:44 & 45 The stone grows into a Mountain**

1. [44] And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever;
2. [45] just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand,

and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure."

**Note:** Reminiscent of the Isaiah passage... a Mountain rises, this one starts as a stone, not hewed from human hands, and grows to a mountain that takes over ALL the world... again... like Isaiah! It crushes the Kingdoms/Kings! Think also of the parable of the Mustard seed St. Matthew 13:31&32 - small to big both describing the Kingdom of the Messiah.

### **A New Messiah has come to establish His Mountain!**

#### **St. Matthew 5:1&2,17 Like all the mediators... this one is also on a Mountain!**

1. [1] Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him.
2. [2] And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
3. [17] "Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them.

**Note:** A NEW Moses has come (Fulfillment of Deut. 18:15-18)... the LAW is proceeding forth from this Mountain. Its NOT an end to the LAW, which God gave at Mount Sinai... rather a perfecting of that Law! Jesus is raising the bar not lowering it. The first was marked by sacrifice, 12 Priests, and a sacred meal, so to will this one be marked by a sacrifice, 12 Priests, and a sacred meal! (see Ex. 24)

#### **St. John 4:21&22 - Neither on this Mountain nor in Jerusalem!**

1. [21] Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.
2. [22] You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

**Note:** Seeking to bring back the LOST 10 Northern Tribes Jesus foretells,

in this exchange with the Samaritan Woman, about the day when TRUE Worship will NOT be on these mountains... but one FAR greater... in Spirit & in Truth!

## **Where is the MOUNTAIN which he establishes?**

### **St. Matthew 16:13-21 - The Mountain of the LORD is established!**

1. [13] Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesare'a Philip'pi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?"
2. [14] And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Eli'jah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
3. [15] He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
4. [16] Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
5. [17] And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
6. [18] And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.
7. [19] I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
8. [20] Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.
9. [21] From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

**Note:** The NEW Temple is Jesus Himself... its where God's presence among man dwells... the very tent/tabernacle of God! (John 1:14) BUT.... that NEW Temple was firmly established upon the ROCK of St. Peter!

## **How do we know that this ROCK is the Mountain foretold?**

**Acts 2:5, 14,38-41 The Rock Preaches to MEN from ALL Nations & Gathers them IN!**

1. [5] Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven.
1. [14] But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.
1. [38] And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
2. [39] For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him."
3. [40] And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."
4. [41] So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

**Note:** Devout MEN from every nation under heaven.... think Isaiah & Micah! The Rock proclaims the TRUTH of Jesus, foretold in the LAW & Prophets (esp. vs. 22-25)... think of how the LAW proceeds! Then the ROCK baptizes & brings in 3000 that day... remind you of Moses, & the Levites who defended God and slaughtered 3000 at another Mountain?