



The Church of Christ Is Built on Rock: A Defense of the Sound Pattern of Catholic Authority against Restorationism's Pursuit of Independence

Patrick Vandapool

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The Church of Christ Is Built on Rock is written for members of Restorationist communities, primarily those who understand that the Lord's Church is found within groups that descend from the nineteenth century Stone-Campbell movement. Many non-Catholic Christians begin their protest against the Catholic Church's legitimacy and authority by firstly arguing against her understanding of Jesus' words, "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church . . ." (Matthew 16:18); this book is a response to such arguments.

- Does the Bible support the papacy?
- What are the keys to the kingdom?
- Did Jesus build His Church on a confession of faith?
- Are elders selected by local congregations?
- Are autonomous Church plantings Jesus' intent?
- Is apostolic succession biblical?

These and other questions are answered in this book. Vandapool presents the Protestant Church of Christ's most common arguments against the Catholic Church of Christ's understanding of the passage and then shows how none of them stand up to scrutiny. He explains the cultural context of Jesus' statement and the paradigmatic structure that Jesus alluded to when calling St. Peter to the office of prime minister. In doing so, Vandapool arranges the importance of the subject as it pertains to orthodoxy, authority, and the forgiveness of sins.

NOTE: Much of the content is from Vandapool's retired book *Traditions of Men*.

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