

"How Christ is Building His Church" Acts 9:32-43 ◆ Pastor Jim Lennon February 23, 2025

Introduction – After looking at the story of Saul's conversion, we turn back again to Peter's ministry of building up the Church of Jesus.

I. What Building the Church Means.

- A. Jesus is building people, not a building.
- B. The Church is comprised of people converted to Christ by the Holy Spirit who are growing in the Lord together. (Eph. 2:19-20)
- C. Jesus is building His Church. (Matt.16:18)
- D. "Being built up" or "edified" is in the passive voice.
- E. The word means to be encouraged, supported, enhanced, or nurtured.
- F. As we follow Peter, we see how Jesus is building His church.

II. How the Church is Built Up.

A. First, Peter is meeting with the "saints" to teach and encourage them from the Word of God. (See Eph. 4:11-16)

- B. From the example of Aeneas' healing, Peter is showing people that the Church is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ.
- C. Peter also shows us how the Church is built by following Jesus as His disciple.
 - 1. By serving others. (Aeneas and Tabitha)
 - 2. By following Jesus' example.
 - a. Aeneas -
 - b. Tabitha –
 - 3. A disciple uses the gifts Jesus has given to them to serve in building His Church. (I Peter 4:10-11)
- D. The Church is also built by making the Gospel of Christ clear.
 - 1. There are many "false" Gospels.
 - 2. There is only one true Gospel that can save us. (Acts 4:13)

Conclusion.