



Anthem: "Built on a Rock"

Words and Music by Joel Raney

Based on "The Church's One Foundation"
by Samuel J. Stone (1839-1900)

Samuel J. Stone wrote twelve hymn texts based on the Apostles' Creed. The hymn "The Church's One Foundation" refers to the ninth article stating belief in the holy catholic (universal) church and the communion of saints. In the hymn, Stone reaffirms the Lordship of Christ as the foundation of the church.¹



Samuel J. Stone

THE CHURCH

The Rock.

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. Psalm 18:2

In Matt. 16:16-18, when the apostle Peter proclaimed Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus responded "...on this rock, I will build my church." John Wesley wrote that Jesus was alluding to Peter's name, which signifies a rock, but it was the faith which Peter professed on which Jesus would build his Church." Wesley continued to write that Scripture states Jesus is the only foundation of the Church, and that is what the apostles preached. It is for their faith and teaching, that the names of the twelve apostles (not Peter only) will be inscribed on the twelve foundations of the wall of the city of God as stated in Rev. 21:14.

from Wesley's Notes on the Bible

The Cornerstone and Foundation.

Isaiah 28:16 - "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed."

Real cornerstones carry the weight of a building. So Jesus is God's cornerstone for the house of God.

from *Disciple's Study Bible* footnote

Christ is the loving, sacrificing Head of the church. The church is the obedient, grateful body which serves its savior. Christ is directly connected to the church which represents Christ's presence in the world.

from *Disciple's Study Bible* footnote for Ephesians 5:22-24

Anthem Lyrics

Rock of ages cleft for me let me hide myself in thee.
This church has one, one sure foundation in Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new, his new creation from water and the word.

Refrain Built on a rock, not built on shifting sand,
The cornerstone of God's eternal plan.
Straight and true these walls will stand;
This church is built on a rock by God's almighty hand.

From heaven he came, he came and sought her, to be his holy bride.
And with his precious blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Refrain
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure.

Refrain

Prayer: Father, may our church be a place where Jesus is glorified and where everyone can find the salvation, love, and peace that come through Jesus. With your help, may we create for ourselves and others a place for worship, inspiration, instruction, service, and fellowship. Bless and guide us as your church. Amen.

¹Osbeck, Kenneth, *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions*.