

GOSPEL PEARLS

Before any reasoning

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Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 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.” (Matthew 16: 13-19)

St. Peter gave the right answer regarding Jesus’s identity. It was not based on his reasoning processes, but on following his inspiration he received from God. Jesus said he is blessed, since he followed God before any human convictions. May we pray for ourselves and for our shepherds, so that we all may follow the God’s way every day.