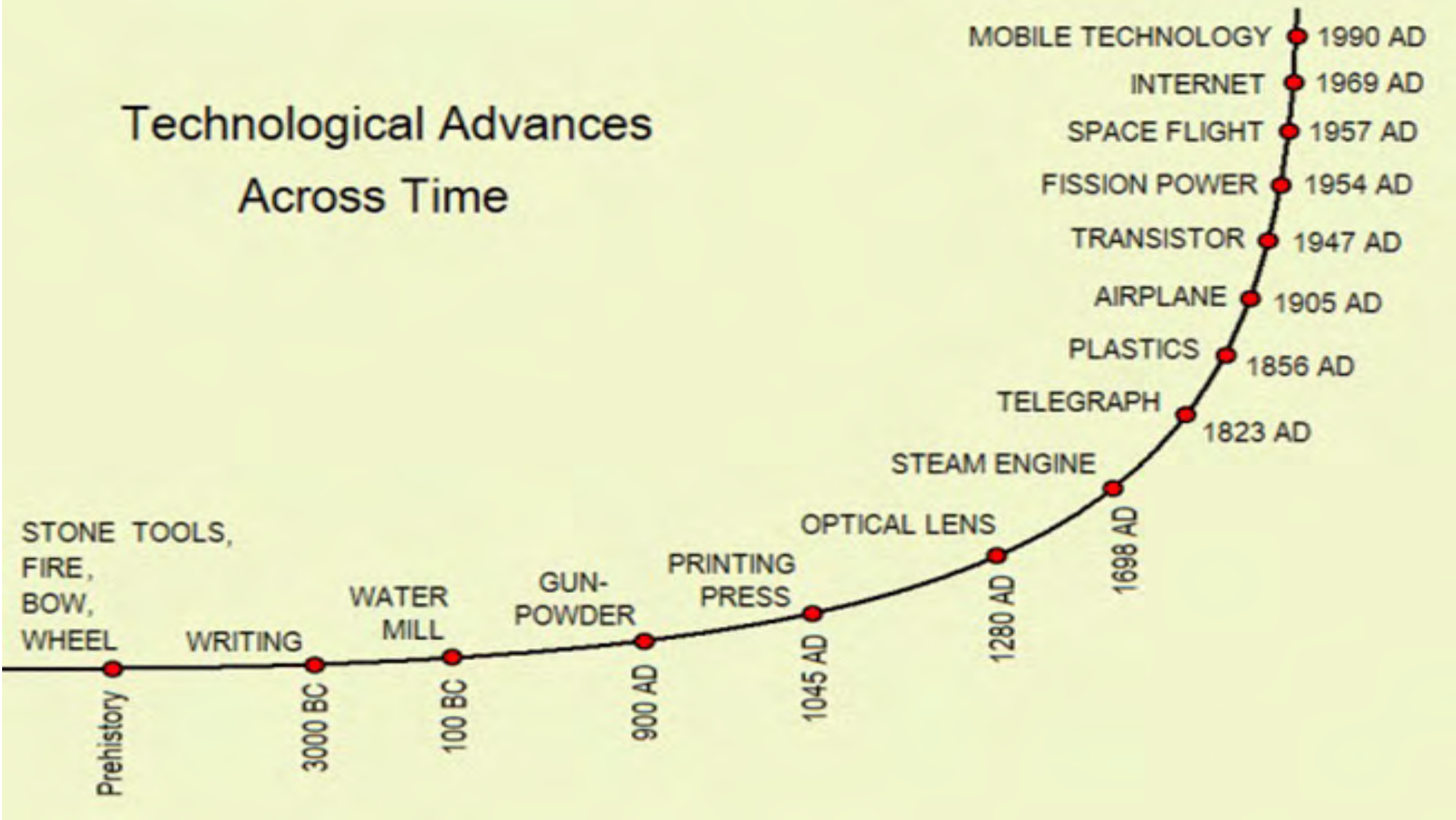


**“The True Church is Built on the Rock –
JESUS!”**

Matthew 16: 13-20

Technological Advances Across Time



Verse 13

The question of the ages, *Who is Jesus?*

Two key questions every person must answer:

- 1) *“Who do you say that I, the Son of Man, am?”*
- 2) *“What shall I do with Jesus who is called the Christ?” – Matthew 27: 22*

Are Jesus' claims true or false?

*“Was Jesus a liar, lunatic,
or is He really Lord?”*

C.S. Lewis – *“Mere Christianity”*



Mt. Hermon ▲

Tyre ●

Caesarea Philippi ●

Chorazin ●
Capernaum ●

Bethsaida ●

Magadan ◈

Sea of Galilee

○ Bethany
across
Jordan?



Verse 14 - 15

The Disciples answer

The **MAJORITY** are confused about Jesus

The **MAJORITY** do not believe that He is God,
and do not believe He is their Savior

The question for you is:

“But who do you say that I am?”

REMEMBER: It is doubtful that the **MAJORITY**
are ever correct



In God's economy, the polls and what the **MAJORITY** think are meaningless!

A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right and evil doesn't become good, just because it's accepted by a majority.

Rick Warren

quote fancy

Verse 16

Yeah Peter! The right answer!

Peter says something the world vehemently denies:

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”

The **MAJORITY** deny the deity of Christ, that Jesus is God incarnate

*Again, the **MAJORITY** are wrong!!*

Before he died



**MUHAMMAD SAID:
I DON'T KNOW
THE PURPOSE OF LIFE**



**BUDAH SAID TO HIS
FOLLOWERS: SEEK FOR
THE TRUTH**



**CONFUCIOUS SAID:
I AM NOT THE WAY**



**BUT JESUS SAID:
I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE
LIFE; NO ONE COMES TO THE
FATHER, EXCPT THROUGH ME.**

JOÃO 14:6

Why are so many offended by Jesus?



Why don't the names of Buddha, Mohammed, Confucius offend people? The reason is that these others didn't claim to be God, but Jesus did.

— *Josh McDowell* —

AZ QUOTES

Verse 17

**The truth about Jesus is revealed
by God, the Father**

God is the initiator of salvation; ***salvation is a miracle of God!***

God opens blind eyes and softens hard hearts; ***God is the miracle worker!***

God does all the work to save someone; people do not work – **Titus 3: 5-6**

Human responsibility is to **believe and receive the free gift**

Salvation is a free gift, but must be accepted to be effectual – **John 1: 12**

Verse 18

The True Church is built on “*this rock*” –
JESUS!

QUESTION: What does *“this rock”* refer to?

*Jesus Himself is “this rock”,
the foundation of the Church*

Rock = *“You are Peter (petros) and on this
rock (petra), I will build My church”*

Petros = a stone or pebble

Petra = a large rock formation

Peter is not the massive rock; *Jesus is the massive rock the Church is built on*

Proof texts that Jesus is the “*rock*”:

1 Peter 2: 4 and 2: 6

Ephesians 2: 20

1 Corinthians 10: 5

What about the “*gates of Hades*” (hell)?

“The gates of Hades (hell) shall not prevail against it”

The gates of hell will not hold back Messiah’s kingdom – *GREAT THOUGHT!*

Verse 19 - 20

**The Keys of the Kingdom
What are they?**

Keys = open doors

Binding = to forbid; what is bound on earth has already been bound in heaven

***“Heaven, not the apostles,
initiates all binding and loosing”***

Charles Ryrie

Peter, with the ***“keys of the kingdom”***, will open the door to salvation to all people groups

All saved are part of **Messiah’s Millennial Kingdom**

Peter is present at each of these events:

- 1) The kingdom was opened to the **Jews** first
Acts 2: 14
- 2) The kingdom was opened to the **Samaritans**
Acts 8: 14-17
- 3) The kingdom was opened to the **Gentiles**
Acts 10: 44-45

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

The Gospel of the Kingdom has gone out; Peter fulfilled his mission

The kingdom offer to Israel was rejected and put on hold

We are living in the age termed the **“Mystery Kingdom”**

This refers to Jew and Gentile in one body, **the body of the Messiah**

“The present spiritual reign of the King, during the period He is physically absent from the earth, prior to His second coming” (John Wolvoord)

Messiah's Kingdom of light is opposed to Satan's kingdom of darkness

Different values, different worldview, different kings, different destinies (*heaven vs hell*)

People are blinded

God will use the Gospel of Grace to open blinded eyes – **Romans 10: 17**

This is your life, ***your timeline***

You have this **dash of time** to determine your eternal destiny

How will you use your dash?

Jesus came that you may have an abundant dash
John 10: 10

BORN — DIED

DON'T WASTE YOUR DASH



By the way, those who believe in Jesus never die – *We graduate!*

Jesus is real!

Heaven is real!

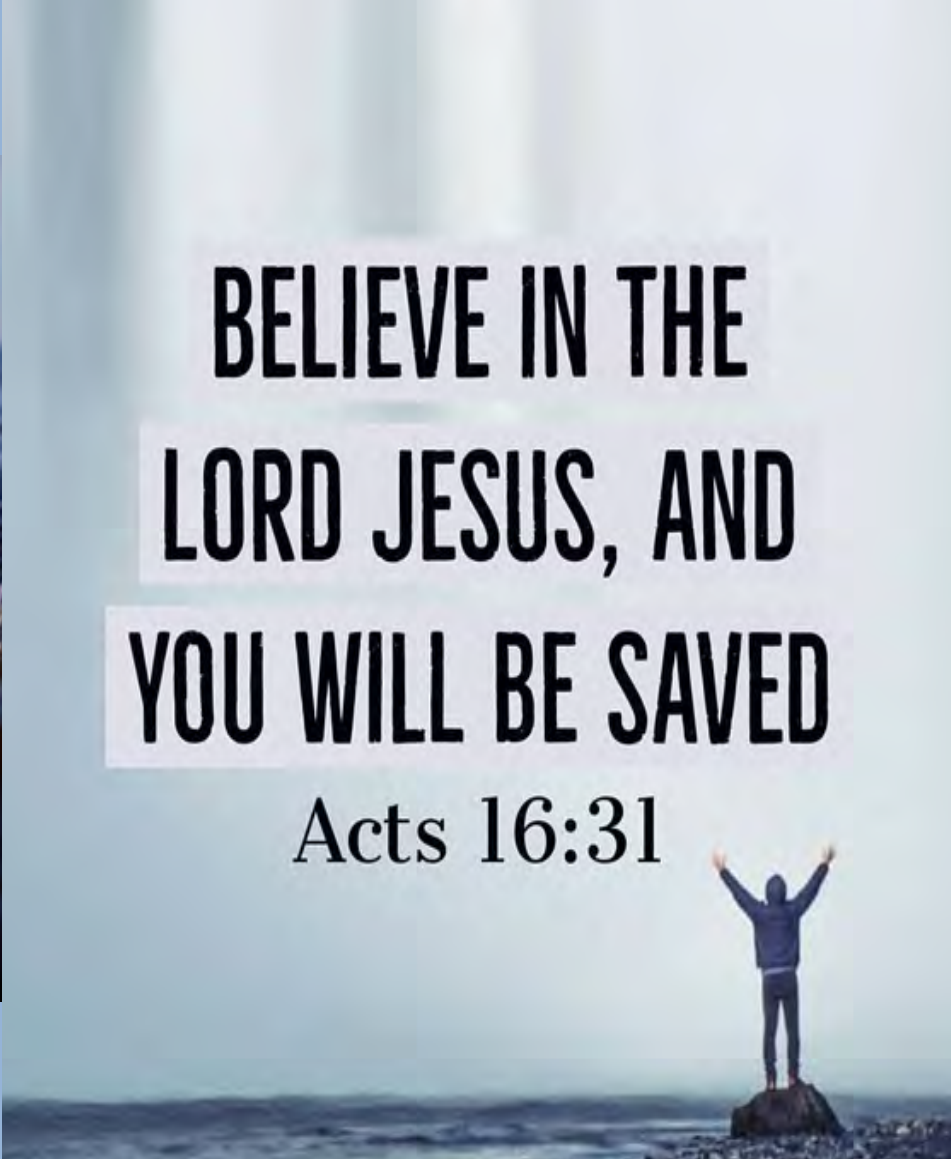
Hell is real!

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE!!

“What will you do with Jesus who is called the Christ?”

A close-up photograph of a person's hand reaching out of the water, with splashing water around it. The background is a clear blue sky and ocean.

“what must I do
to be saved?”

A photograph of a person standing on a rock in the ocean, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph. The background is a clear blue sky and ocean.

**BELIEVE IN THE
LORD JESUS, AND
YOU WILL BE SAVED**

Acts 16:31