

WHO WANTS THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM?

By Rod

Based on Matthew 16 vv 13-23. Simon Peter becomes a contestant in a version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? Where Jesus is the question-master.

CAST

Jesus Manson *The host and question-master*
Simon Peter *A contestant*

[Enter Jesus who stands centre stage.]

JM Hello and welcome to “Who wants the keys of the kingdom?”. My name is Jesus Manson and I am your host. So now it is time to meet today’s contestant. *[Enter Simon Peter who stands alongside Jesus]*
Hello, can you tell us your name please?

SP I’m Simon.

JM And what do you do for a living, Simon?

SP I’m a fisherman.

JM Is your business going well? How is your net profit?

SP I mustn’t grumble. I make a living.

JM But you are after rather bigger fish today?

SP It would certainly be nice make a big haul.

JM OK, well enough of these dreadful puns; let’s get started. Simon are you ready to play “Who wants the keys of the kingdom?”?

SP Yes, I am Jesus. *[Jesus and Simon take their seats]*

JM OK, Simon, let’s have a look at your question. *[Reading from screen]* “Who do people say the Son Of Man is?”. *[Pause. Looking at Simon]* What does that look mean? Were you expecting this question?

SP Well. It’s certainly one I’ve thought about and discussed with my friends.

JM So you know the answer?

SP I reckon I've got a shrewd idea.

JM OK then, let's look at the four possible answers.

SP Fine.

JM *[Reading from screen]* Is it:

A John the Baptist

B Elijah

C Jeremiah

Or D One of the prophets?

SP Oh

JM Oh what?

SP I know some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets..

JM Okay.. so what is the problem?

SP The problem is I reckon they are all wrong.

JM You mean it is none of these?

SP Yes, this is what people say – but I reckon the answer is different.

JM How have you come to that conclusion?

SP I am not sure. It is a sort of revelation. *[Pause]* And, of course, the Son of Man is you, isn't it – Jesus?

JM Okay then, who do you say the Son of Man is? Simon, who do you say that I am?

SP You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

JM *[Leaping up]* Is the right answer! Simon, that's amazing. *[Goes over to Simon]* That revelation you had was divinely inspired. *[Leading Simon to front of stage]*

SP Well, yeah, it just came to me.

JM From now on, Simon, I am going to call you Peter.

SP Peter? Doesn't that mean rock?

JM Indeed it does. And as that solid rock, Peter, I give you your prize – the keys of the kingdom of heaven. *[Hands bunch of keys to Simon Peter]*

SP Wow, that's amazing. Thank you, Jesus.

JM Don't thank me, Peter, with great power comes great responsibility.

SP I don't follow you.

JM You will follow me – but a rocky path lies ahead for both of us.

SP Surely not, Jesus; at least, not for you. After all, you are the Christ the Son of the living God.

JM Oh, Peter, you have much to learn. *[Jesus walks off. Peter is left alone. Puzzled. Looks at keys. Then races off after Jesus.]*

THE END