

# John 1:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

## Analysis

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Andrew brings Simon to Jesus, who immediately renames him: 'Thou art Simon... thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.' Jesus sees not just who Simon is but who he will become. The name change from Simon (heard) to Peter/Cephas (rock/stone) prophesies transformation. The unstable fisherman will become a foundational apostle. This naming demonstrates Christ's authority and foreknowledge, and His power to transform character.

## Historical Context

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Name changes in Scripture signify new identity and calling—Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel. Peter's new name anticipates his role in the early church. Despite his failures (denials, rebukes), Peter became a rock of stability and leadership. This verse encourages believers that Christ sees their potential, not just their present condition.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. What transformation has Christ worked in your character that you never thought possible?
2. How does Christ's foreknowledge of Peter's failures and restoration encourage you in your weaknesses?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ἤγαγεν	αὐτῷ	πρὸς	τὸν	Ἰησοῦς	έμβλέψας	δὲ	αὐτῷ	
And	he brought	him	to	G3588	Jesus	beheld	And	him	
G2532	G71	G846	G4314		G2424	G1689	G1161	G846	
ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	εἶπεν	σὺ	εἶ	Σίμων	ὁ	υἱὸς	Ἰωνᾶ·	σὺ
G3588	Jesus	he said	Thou	art	Simon	G3588	the son	of Jona	Thou
	G2424	G2036	G4771	G1488	G4613		G5207	G2495	G4771
κληθήσῃ	Κηφᾶς	ὃ	ἐρμηνεύεται	Πέτρος					
shalt be called	Cephas	which	is by interpretation	A stone					
G2564	G2786	G3739	G2059	G4074					

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 15:5** (Parallel theme): And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

**1 Corinthians 3:22** (Parallel theme): Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are your's;

**1 Corinthians 1:12** (Parallel theme): Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.

**1 Corinthians 9:5** (Parallel theme): Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

**Matthew 10:2** (Parallel theme): Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

**Galatians 2:9** (Parallel theme): And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

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