

St. Peter

-By Thomas Schweitzer

As it's been mentioned with many occasions, the Judeo-Christian characters/archetypes mentioned in the Bible and worshipped by Xians and Jews, are neither historical figures nor originally Judeo-Christian. In the present article the archetype of "St. Peter," who in the Bible appears as one of "Jewsus' apostles," will be analysed.

The similarity between St. Peter and Hermes/Mercury/Thoth, Mithra and Janus is very blatant. For instance, Peter is called "the rock" and has been claimed to be the "cornerstone" of the Xian Church. Mithra was thought to have been "rock-born." The Greek God Hermes (the Romans called him Mercury and he was known by the Egyptians as Thoth), was the one holding the keys to the underworld, making him the "keyholder" and the "gatekeeper." This aspect is similarly shared by Janus, who is the "keyholder" of heaven. The Jews did not miss this aspect either when inventing the archetype of Peter – known as the gatekeeper of heaven in the Bible

Matthew 16:18-19

18) And I tell you that you are Peter and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

19) I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16:23

23) Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me..."

Luke 22:34

34) Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

John 18:27

27) Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

"Jesus is made to give the keys of the kingdom to Peter, yet he then turns around and calls Peter 'Satan,' ironically implying that his church is to be built upon the 'rock of Satan.' Peter was thus the 'gatekeeper' of heaven, likewise a role within the mythos. As Robertson relates: '...there is to be

noted the remarkable coincidence that in the Egyptian Book of the Dead, Petra is the name of the divine doorkeeper of heaven...'

'Peter' is not only 'the rock' but also 'the cock,' or penis, as the word is used as slang to this day. As Walker says, 'The cock was also a symbol of Saint Peter, whose name also meant a phallus or male principle (pater) and a phallic pillar (petra). Therefore, the cock's image was placed atop church towers.'" [1, p. 168]

"The cock was another totemic 'peter' sometimes viewed as the god's alter ego. Vatican authorities preserved a bronze image of a cock with an oversize penis on a man's body, the pedestal inscribed 'The Savior of the World.' The cock was also a solar symbol." [2, p. 79]



Fig. 257.—The god Priapus as a cock, from a Greek temple.



Bronze sculpture hidden in the Vatican treasury of the Cock, symbol of St. Peter. Inscription reads "Savior of the World." (Walker, *WDSSO*)

"On this stone, which was the emblem of the male generative principle, the Linga, Jesus founded his church. This sacred stone is found throughout all the world. In India at every temple. The Jews had it in the stone of Jacob, which he anointed with oil. The Greeks, at Delphi, like Jacob, anointed it with oil. The black stone was in the Caaba, at Mecca, long before the time of Mohammed... Mr. Bryant says, 'When the worship of the sun was almost universal, this was one name of that deity, even among the Greeks. They called him Petor, and Petros, and his temple was styled Petra.' Where the temples had this name... there was generally a sacred stone which was supposed to have descended

from heaven. Mr. Bryant observes, ‘Pator or Petor, was an Egyptian word; and Moses, speaking of Joseph and the dreams of Pharaoh, more than once makes use of it...’ [3, p. 645]

For those who don’t know what a Lingam is, here’s a short explanation. It’s a divine symbol formed from two parts: a bottom part, which is also called “the receptacle” and has the shape of a Yoni, representing the female sexual organ; and a top part which is shaped like a phallus/penis, representing the male sexual organ. This is the “stone” mentioned in ancient religions; this is the reason why “the stone” had both the meaning of “cornerstone” (female principle, Yoni) and of “rooster” or “penis” (male principle). Below there are a few images of Lingam’s:



“While discussing his betrayal, Christ claims that Peter, his ‘rock,’ will deny him three times before the cock crows. This element is found in other myths and earlier traditions... ‘St. Peter,’ despite his denial, is considered the gatekeeper of heaven. This story is not historical but astronomical in origin, with Peter and the cock being one and representing the announcement of the morning sun, whom Peter ‘the gatekeeper/cock’ finally allows to pass after denying him... As the cock who announces the risen savior, Peter is associated with the sign of Aries, when the sun overcomes the night and starts its journey to fullness.” [1, pp. 201-202] (Fullness achieved at the Summer Solstice when sun’s power is at its peak.)

“It is said in the Zohar that a cock crowing three times is an omen of death... The Gospel story of Peter’s denial of Christ, three times before cockcrow, was related to older legends associating the cockcrow with the death and resurrection of the solar Savior... The resurrected god couldn’t enter into his kingdom until dawn. The angel of annunciation appeared as a cock, ‘to announce the coming of the Sun,’ as Pausanias said. At cockcrow, the Savior arose as Light of the World to disperse the demons of night. But if he tried to enter into his kingdom earlier, disrupting the cycles of night and day, the Gatekeeper would deny him. The ritualistic denial took place also in the fertility cults of Canaan, where the dying god Mot was denied by a priest representing the Heavenly Father. [2, pp. 79, 397]

The snapshot where the heavenly father abandons the dying god appears similarly in the bible where the protagonist is Jesus at the time of his death:

Matthew 27:46

46) About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (Which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

Similarities between Mithra and St. Peter

Mithra is a very popular Persian God, not only in Persia and the Middle East, but also in the Roman Empire; during the Roman occupation he was adored in Dacia as well:

"...during the Roman Era, one of the gods most worshipped in the Dacian province, Mithra, was also called petrogenitus (rock-born)." [4, p. 676]

Below there are two images of Mithra, being born from the rock:



Pay attention to what the Catholic Encyclopaedia says about Mithraism; it's interesting to note also how the followers of Mithra called each other brothers (long before the Xian era): "The fathers conducted the worship. The chief of the fathers, a sort of pope, who always lived at Rome, was called 'Pater Patrum' or 'Pater Patratus.' The members below the degree of pater called one another 'brother,' and social distinctions were forgotten in Mithraic unity." [5, p. WORSHIP]

"The 'apostle' Peter ('rock') is associated with Jesus ('salvation') long before the Christian era, in Old Testament scriptures that address either the divine 'Rock of Salvation' or God as both 'my rock' and 'my salvation,' such as at Deut. 32: 15; 2 Sam. 22:3, 22:7; Psa. 18:22, 18:46, 62:2, 62:6, 62:7, 89:26, 95: 1; and Isaiah 17:10. Hence, the apostle Peter... is the old 'rock' (petra)... especially prevalent in Mithraism. Petra is also the 'doorkeeper' to heaven and to the mysteries in the Egyptian myths.

According to Pausanias, the inhabitants of Orchomenos in Greece worshipped 'Petras,' or rocks, 'which were supposed to have fallen from heaven.' Regarding this scenario, Christian scholar Bryant comments that 'every oracular temple' possessed 'some legend about a stone... some reference to

the word Petra.' He further remarks that 'when the worship of the Sun was almost universal,' Petor or Petros was 'one name of that Deity even among the Greeks.'" [6, p. 470]

"Mithra was sometimes termed the god out of the rock, and services were conducted in caves. Jesus' origin in a cave is a clear instance of the taking over of a Mithraic idea. Paul says, 'They drank from that spiritual rock and that rock was Christ' (I Cor. 10:4). These are identical words to those found in the Mithraic scriptures, except that the name Mithra is used instead of Christ. The Vatican hill in Rome that is regarded as sacred to Peter, the Christian rock, was already sacred to Mithra. Many Mithraic remains have been found there." [7, p. 203]

The title "the good shepherd" is likewise not Xian. Originally this was a title of Mithra:

"Further correlations between Mithraism and Christianity can be found in the Christian catacombs, where there are numerous images of Christ as the 'Good Shepherd,' also a title of Apollo, who in his solar aspect, and as the 'patron of the rocks,' is identified with Mithra. Indeed, 'Petra, the sacred rock of Mithraism, became Peter, the foundation of the Christian Church.' Another remnant of militant Mithraism within Christianity can be found in the phrases 'soldiers of Christ' and 'putting on the armor of Christ.'" [6, p. 131]

Ephesians 6:11

11) Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:13

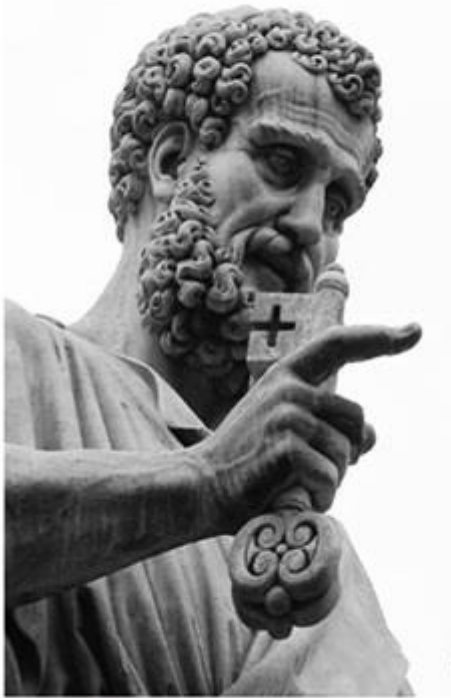
13) Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground...

The double headed god Janus and Peter

"The double-faced Roman god Janus, the genius of the month of January, was likewise the sun, identified with Apollo, the sun god, and Diana, the moon goddess... Placed above doorways and depicted holding a key, Janus was the 'doorkeeper of heaven and hell'... As has been evinced by a number of scholars, Janus Pater, the keyholder and gatekeeper, is the prototype of St. Peter. [6, p. 139]

St. Peter & Janus

are both keepers of the Key and Gates



St. Peter



Janus

Matthew 16:18-19

19) I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

The second part of the verse above can be summarized to "as above so below" – a concept fully expressed by Janus' two heads. And there's no coincidence this concept was attributed to no other apostle but Peter, since it was inherent to Janus, one of the prototypes of Peter:

"The opening month of the year (January, from janua, "gate") was sacred to him, as was the first day of each month... As warden of gates, which he opened and closed, he was depicted with a doorkeeper's keys and staff. His two faces meant that he watched entrances as well as exits, and saw into the internal as well as the external world, left and right, above and below, before and after, for and against. His shrines were archways, such as gateways or arcades at crossing places.

On Roman monuments, Janus is shown crowned as in the cartouche of Luchon, with the sceptre in the right hand, because he is king; he holds in the other hand a key which opens and closes the epochs; this is why, by extension of this idea, the Romans consecrated to him the doorways of houses and the gates to cities.

Turning to their initiatory symbolism, Janus as the god of initiation has two keys, gold and silver, that represent the greater mysteries and the lesser mysteries, and the celestial and terrestrial paradises, respectively.” [8]

“It is clear from his characteristics that Peter is styled after the Roman god Janus, as has been noted and demonstrated elsewhere. Petra was thus a popular god epithet at Rome, which is why Peter is a Roman representative; in other words, Peter was invented to incorporate that major faction of the brotherhood.” [6, p. 470]

And... surprise, surprise: the cock/rooster is found amongst Janus' sacred animals. You can see this in the image above as well.

“One of the most striking epithets of the god Janus was Matutinus – that is, of or pertaining to the morning, as he was believed to preside over all beginnings, entrances, gates, and commencements; not merely over the beginning of the year, but over the beginning or dawn of every day: and hence, the cock, whose crowing announces the first appearance of the day, was peculiarly accompanying emblem of the god Janus; and bears precisely the same part in the gospel allegory, in crowing Peter into repentance, as he bears in the analogy of nature, when his shrill voice proclaims the breaking-in of evangelical light upon the dark conscience of the sun-abjuring apostle; and the evidence of his repentance descends upon the world, in the dewy tears of the morning.” [9, p. 153]

Hermes/Mercury and Peter

From the next quote it is clear that Mercury was associated with the Sun, just like Mithra was associated with Apollo (the Sun), and just like St. Peter was later associated with Jesus:

“The son of Zeus and Maia, the daughter of the Titan Atlas, Hermes was also the brother of Apollo. Hermes is equivalent in the Egyptian pantheon to Thoth, who, as we have seen, is identified with Apollo... Hermes is also the planet Mercury, which was considered by its proximity to the sun, its small size and its short year to be the closest and speediest companion of the sun; in fact, Hermes was equated with the sun, as ‘his’ proxy. Like the

old Egyptian god Shu, Thoth/Hermes/ Mercury, the ‘messenger of the gods,’ is the Divine Word by which the universe is created.” [6, p. 114]

In the introduction, the connection between the cock and Sf. Peter was discussed. However, the cock was also one of Hermes’ symbols, which dates far longer than the advent of Xianity. In the following images of Hermes both the cock (on the left) and the goat can be observed:



The following quote is from Wikipedia: “Symbols of Hermes were the palm tree, turtle, rooster, goat, the number four, several kinds of fish, incense.” [10, Temples]

The next image is also suggestive. In the Bible it is written that the rooster crowed twice immediately following Peter’s thrice denial. The carriage of Hermes is pulled by... two cocks.

Mark 14:30

30) And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, that thou to-day, even this night, before the cock crow twice, shalt deny me thrice.



“The etymology of the word Peter is common with that of Hermes, both originating from the word rock. Both are acting as accompany in the salvation of souls. About Hermes, Diogene Laerios mentioned that: 'he is the steward of souls, and for that reason is called Hermes the Escorter, Hermes the Keeper of the Gate, and Hermes of the Underworld, since it is he who brings in the souls from their bodies both by land and sea.'” [4, p. 674]

Also, the link between the rock, Peter, the cock and Lingam has already been discussed. Here we have another quote about Hermes and the connection between his name, rocks and the phallus. The herma discussed in the quote (see the image below) is nothing else than a Lingam (the base is a yoni, and the column above it is the phallus): “In Ancient Greece, Hermes was a phallic god of boundaries. His name, in the form herma, was applied to a wayside marker pile of stones; each traveller added a stone to the pile. In the 6th century BC, Hipparchos, the son of Pisistratus, replaced the cairns that marked the midway point between each village deme at the central agora of Athens with a square or rectangular pillar of stone or bronze topped by a bust of Hermes with a beard. An erect phallus rose from the base. In the more primitive Mount Kyllini or Cyllenian herms, the standing stone or wooden pillar was simply a carved phallus. In Athens, herms were placed outside houses for good luck.” [10, Hermai/Herms]



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