

HOW TO SHATTER THE GATES OF HELL

MATTHEW 16:13-19

¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵"But what about you?" He asked. "Who do you say I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by My Father in heaven. ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹I 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 16:13-19

I. Confess Faith in Christ – vss. 13-17

- **Personal faith** – Jesus the Christ, son of the living God. Not of ourselves, but of God, through the Spirit. No matter how much you search for Him, He will find you.
 - Christ is not a good way to heaven. (Good answer to our problems.)
 - Christ is not the best way to heaven. (Best answer to our problems.)
 - Christ is the ONLY way to heaven. (Only answer to our problems.)
- Because of Peter's saving faith, he was blessed by Jesus.
- Jesus also reminded Peter of his name "Rock" – the original Rocky.
- Jesus wishes to call all of us Peter.

II. Build on the Rock of Christ – vs. 18

- **On this Rock (Πετρα)** – Foundation rock
- **Who is this Rock?** 1) Peter's confession of faith; 2) Jesus Himself (I Peter 2:4-6)
- **Who will build the church?** Jesus! He is responsible for results! Whose church is it? Jesus. The Church isn't possess by us, it is we who are the church and possess by Jesus.

III. Go Forward to Sure Victory – vs. 18

"And the gates of hell shall not prevail!"

- **Are the gates of hell offensive?** Defensive – We are to be on the attack. Not hide in our fortress, but charge the mouth of hell itself. Kick down the gates of hell.
- **"The gates shall not prevail."** We've been promised the victory already!
- **But it doesn't look like victory!**
- **To experience victory, we must be a Peter** –
 - > Peter listened to God.
 - > Peter proclaimed the message.
 - > Peter responded in responsibility.

IV. Use the Keys to the Kingdom – vs. 19

- ***What are the keys?*** The results of our work – those saved. Be bound (Greek future perfect, passive periphrastic trans.) – will have been bound. It has already been done, predestined.
- ***Remember the context*** – Peter has just made a confession under control of the Spirit. While Peter is in the Spirit, this promise was given. When we are listening and obedient to God, under control of the Spirit, we will have the same supreme power, for we will do what is His Will, already predestined with great power.
- ***Not just Peter*** was given the keys, but all disciples – Matthew 18:18-19