

03142021 Journey to the cross...As we are a few weeks away from Resurrection Sunday...it is good for us to study and review Jesus journey to the cross...so for the next three weeks we will examine some Supernatural insights Jesus reveals to his disciples about the Kingdom of God and his Kingdom government ...

These are called Revelations...a revelation is something supernatural that was hidden and is now being revealed... something you will either receive or reject...but none the less it has been revealed. and revelation is built upon revelation...that is how we grow in the Kingdom...logo sand RhemaandThe way revelations work is revealed in

NLT Isaiah 28:10 He tells us everything over and over— one line at a time, one line at a time, a little here, and a little there!”

- So lets look at this historically and see how new revelations were given to the Apostles, even though they have been with Jesus close to 2 years !...the winter before Jesus goes to the cross, **Jesus intentionally takes his disciples to a city 25 miles or so north of the Gallilee the area where he had been doing the bulk of his ministry Caesarea Philippi**

NLT Matt 16: 13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples.....

Caesarea Philippi (Latin: "Philip's city of Caesar") was built by Herod's son Philip on a large plateau at the foot of Mount Hermon the highest mountain in Israel (9100 feet), and the water source of the Jordan river and the lake of Gallilee. it was also called the City of Pagans

Caesarea Philippi was built near a rock cliff, called the ROCK OF THE gODS with water gushing out of the mouth of a cave at its base.

- **Show First Picture ... Picture of Gates of Hades or Hell..** This city Caesarea Philippi, which sits at the foot of Mount Hermon, butts up against a large cliff, referred to as the ‘Rock of the gods’, in reference to the many shrines built against it. **In the center of the Rock of the gods is a huge cave, from which a stream flowed out from the rock beneath the mouth of the cave. This cave was called the “Gates of Hades”, because it was believed that Baal, and the Greek Mythological gods would enter and leave the underworld through this cave.**

Greeks and Romans believed that Hades/Hell (place of the dead) was under the earth, and that a number of rivers flowed to and from it. It was believed by the Pagans that the underground spring coming from the cave had to be from Hades – a gateway to and from the underworld. Because of this, the site was called "The Gates of Hell." where Hell meets the earth..the entrance of the underworld to the outer world...

Now Above the cave and spring, worshipers carved niches into the cliff and placed idols into each one.

- Show Second Picture of the niches... Here are some of the niches in the rock formation.
- Pan, Baal a god of fertility, sexuality and nature.
- Temples and courtyards built to worship other gods Ceasar, Zeus, Hermes stood nearby
- Several other shrines and temples stood here including the large one to Caesar. The niches in the wall held images of the gods Pan, Echo and Hermes.
- People came to make sacrifices and engage in religious sexual activity.
- In the open-air Pan Shrine, next to the cave mouth, there was a large niche, in which a statue of Pan (a half-goat, half-human creature) stood, worshipped for his sexual prowess, Surrounding him in the wall were many smaller niches, in which were statues of his attending woodland nymphs whom Pan would chase to have sex with.... On the shrine in front of these niches, worshippers of Pan would congregate and partake in sexual activities.. –

His disciples must have found Jesus' destination quite astonishing. For the Jews, this setting was blasphemous and horrifying and they would not be caught dead there, yet this is where Jesus takes His disciples....

...Jesus disciples looking around...would witness people openly having sex...entering and exiting temples worshipping idols and the strong presence of the demonic.....while also seeing the beautiful and lush

landscape surrounding the headwater of the Jordan River flowing out of the mouth of this huge Cave...

This is the location where Jesus has this exchange with his disciples...

Jesus presented a clear challenge with his words at Caesarea Philippi: He didn't want his followers hiding from evil: He wanted them to storm the gates of hell...the church will be built right in front of those gates....

Matt 16: ¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”

Jesus asks the safe question “Who do people-others say that I am?”

- **Safe because to answer it required no conviction, no commitment, and no risk. All it requires repeating back hearsay...**
- **Apparently there had been a lot of speculation, rumors swirling around, a lot of wondering among those who followed and listened to Jesus —most of it well off the mark. It’s pretty much the same today.**
- **The Disciples said...the word out is he is a reincarnation of John the Baptist, Elijah or Jeremiah..or possibly even a new prophet...**
- **Then he asked them who they think he is ...this is the first time he ask them this question...**

¹⁵ Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

- **Jesus does not ask them out of the blue ...he ask them from what they have heard and witnessed and participated in... Jesus gave sight to the blind, restored hearing to the deaf. He cured lepers. Healed by touch or merely by His word. Jesus raised the dead. the **despised he treated with dignity, to the hopeless gave hope, to the wavering he gave faith, He reached beyond the boundaries of race, nationality and religion ...****
- **And He teaches with authority; he dines with sinners; he helps the helpless; he defends the poor and the weak. ...all that revelation yet many did not believe...**

So he asks the disciples then makes it personal to Peter What you call Jesus changes everything... all of us at some point must answer that question for ourselves...

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

- **Peter's Confession of Christ is a first for the apostles...Peter correctly identified who Jesus was "The Christ" the anointed one...the Messiah...**
- **the first new revelation! you did not come up with this answer on your own...it is a revelation of God...**

MT 16: 17 Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.

- **You did not get this revelation...from your Dad John... nor did you get it because you are smarter, more religious, better trained, more loved any earthly attributes!...you got it because my Father Revealed it to you!**
- **it was supernatural revelation!**
- **you must have this revelation before you are given any more revelation from God...Revelation is built upon Revelation...that is why we are ever learning about God... you must receive that Revelation before you can receive any new revelation...**
- **Jesus reveals the next revelation...this revelation is what the church will be built upon!**

*****And it will never be overcome...the second revelation...**

Matt 16: 18 and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

What Rock? Peter's confession of who Jesus is will be , the cornerstone, the foundation That the church will be built upon which will be made up of living stones will be built" this Rock's power against that Rock's power! and the underworld will not conquer it...says the Mighty God!

*****Then he reveals the third revelation...you now have access to the Keys of Kingdom supernatural power and the powers of Hell...the underworld will not overcome it...says the Mighty God!**

¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.”

Because the keys of kingdom authority have been given to the church!

- **Keys mean authority and power...who has keys has the power to unlock and lock doors! you lock up the underworld with the key given of power given from Heaven! given from above**
- **You will have the power to bind...hinder...lock up...restrain .. tie up..you will have binding power in the supernatural....in the supernatural because you belong to the Kingdom of the supernatural..**
- **and you will be able to loose...free up...unfetter...release...deliver those in bondage on the earth...those on earth held by the enemies of God!**
- **Peter received that revelation... and authority**

*****And that revelation prepared he and the disciples for the next revelation....**

²⁰ Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

- **And he says the people will not accept this revelation yet.... Until after the resurrection..**

*****Because of this next Revelation Then Jesus reveals to them for the first time... and this after a year and a half of following him**

MT 16: ²¹ From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.

They experience their first crisis of faith in Jesus...He tells them a plan they are in no way ready or willing to accept...and they fight him about it...typical maturing process..

So Peter starts his ministry of binding on the wrong foot... The anointed one to according to Peter's Theology...the Messiah would throw off the yoke of the Romans and establish the Jews as the chosen people of God...to rule on Earth forever...

²² But Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things. "Heaven forbid, Lord," he said. "This will never happen to you!"

Peter rebukes "The Lord revelations" for having a plan that Peter does not agree with...Because it does not fit his human reasoning and plans...how he thought God would act or should act...

- **be careful of calling what God speaks wrong...binding this and binding that...we just might be attempting to bind the word of God...**
- **But know this..every new revelation brings some kind of persecution from those who do not possess the revelation!**

²³ Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's."

And the Lord calls him Satan for he has not the mind of Christ (i.e. will of Christ) so is actually against Christ...like Satan...

- **He is trying to bind God's will like Satan does! Why? because Satan is always trying to drive the word of God out of us!!**
- **Jesus planted a revelation of Gods will and word into Peter...and like what the enemy does....Peter pulled it out!!**
- **the enemy is always trying to pull the word out : like Jesus parable of the seed of God's word being sown on the four soils...**

Mark 4: ¹⁵ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away.

Remember they are in the region of the gate of Hades...where the demons enter into the affairs of men from the underworld...

- Peter just messed up real bad, with the Lord...I wonder what Jesus is going to do?
- Well let's see....**he gives him a third new revelation!**

MT 16: 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. 25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. 26 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?"

If you want to walk in the Revelation you have received and effectively use the keys of the Kingdom (power to lock and unlock) you have to give up following you!!.....

- **what does it mean to lose your life? it means to be willing to lose all that you hold dear in how you think this life ought to go...and how Jesus ought to act this life?**
- **The power you have attained, the position you have worked all your life to achieve, the financial house you have spent your life building and finally attained... the relationship you so needall of what you want and how you view life are given up! Not necessarily given up but are now held loosely and given to God to control....**
- **You have to give up leading your life...and follow where I take you!**
- **The truth is you will lose them all at some point anyway....so if you try to keep that you will lose it anyway! so the decision is simple reallyif I want to gain the keys of the Kingdom I have to give up the keys of the earth.....**
- **the paradox of our faith... to gain I must lose....i keep and lose... or I lose and gain**
- **and this is a great trade... it will be good for you...and you will be rewarded...**
- **and Ps ...some of you will live longer than others...**

27 For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds. 28 And I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.”

after six days ...and then it seems he took them up Mount Herman... He chose "Satan's turf" to proclaim His glory to His disciples, a declaration that He was the Supreme One who should be worshipped as God.

...then he gives them a further revelation...to verify his word...He knows whats best! He takes Peter, James and John up alone to a mountain and allows them to see who he really is in his heavenly body and clothes...and Moses and Elijah are revealed to them as not dead but very alive

Matt 17:1 Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. 2 As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. 3 Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus. 4 Peter exclaimed, "Lord, it's wonderful for us to be here! If you want, I'll make three shelters as memorials^[a]—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Another revalation from the Father...

5 But even as he spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him." 6 The disciples were terrified and fell face down on the ground. 7 Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid.”

- **Another Revelation ...Don't be afraid of my Father...he is yours also...**

8 And when they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they saw only Jesus. 9 As they went back down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

another revelation ...keep this hidden until the proper time...when it can be received...

- **Why does Jesus do this? Revelation gives greater knowledge which gives greater authority and power ...or Keys to lock and unlock the Supernatural kingdom**

- they received the key of greater faith! through Revelation...Peter had the faith to acknowledge who I was to him...but still thought along with other disciples that his plans were as valid, as well thought out as I....
- Remember I was building twelve men on whom his message would be sent to the world but they were men like other men...they still needed to be built up...
- So that is what he did....

So what does this mean to you and I?

- the keys are supernatural revelation followed by authority...
- they are gained as we follow Jesus...denying ourselves leadership and following his will as he reveals it...
- there are many keys ..and keys possess authority! there is the key of the power of forgiveness... key of the power of generosity, key of healing, when you love you bind the enemy and loose healing.. ...key of casting out demons... key of prophecy, tongues, key of wisdom...the key of faith with the power to overcome suffering...the key of the power of Joy! all revealed as we follow Jesus...
- we grow through Revelation....and Revelation is progressive... but you must be receptive
- Every Revelation comes from God and changes you by giving you a key to now loose and bind ...which before you did not possess
- We all have different key as we grow...but know this the babes among us have great spiritual authority ...speak it
- and be open to learning more... ...until he returns!

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