

The Dangerous Trap

Matthew 16:13-26 NLT

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.” **15** Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?” **16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” **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. **18** Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it. **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.” **20** Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. **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. **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!” **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.” **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?”

The dangerous trap is seeing things from man’s point of view and not God’s point of view.

Matthew 16:23 NLT

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.”

The reason why many of us continue to get caught in things again and again is because we don’t have a revelation of what those things are. We don’t have God’s point of view.

The Best Question

Matthew 16:15 NLT

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

This is the most important question that we must answer. Who is God to you? Who do you say that He is?

Matthew 16:16 NLT

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

The answer did not come from Peter. It came from God. Peter received a revelation.

Revelation

Revelation does not come from man but it comes from God (Matthew 16:17). Anointed teaching comes from revelation it doesn’t create it. Only God can give you revelation.

Revelation is when God turns the light on and reveals something that is concealed to you.

A Human Point of View

Matthew 16:21-22 NLT

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. **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, who had a revelation of Jesus as the Christ, took it upon himself to reprimand the Christ. When Jesus spoke something that didn't fit his theology, Peter starts to rebuke Him.

Why could Peter see that Jesus was the Christ and not see how He was going to suffer and die?

Matthew 16:23 NLT

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.”

Well meaning people can be a dangerous trap for us if they are seeing things from man's point of view and not God's.

We can have a revelation of who Jesus is and be ignorant of what He is calling us to do.

We can be a dangerous trap to others. If we are seeing things from man's perspective and not God's we become a trap to others.

A human point of view can't believe that we may have to suffer at times in this life if we want to see God's glory.

John 16:33 NLT

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

A human point of view will follow God when it is convenient and not when it is difficult.

A human point of view will not embrace dying to ourselves so that Christ may be glorified in us.

A human point of view is self-preservation.

We are the biggest enemy we have when we are seeing things from our point of view.

God's Point of View

The cross was God's idea, not Satan's.

Matthew 16:26 NLT

And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?

God's point of view is that we no longer live for ourselves but to fully live for Him.

God's point of view is that we give up our life so that we can have the abundant life (cf. John 10:10). You can live your life or the abundant life but you can't do both.

Whose point of view are you looking from?

How do I know God's point of view? It's in the Word of God.