Binding and Loosing

Matthew16: 17-18

17 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 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.

Matthew 16:19-20

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.” 20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

More accurately: “Whatever you bind on earth *will have been* bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth *will have been* loosed in Heaven.”

For a rabbi to bind something was to *forbid it*, and to loose something was to *permit it*. Disciples wanted to know what their rabbi thought about everything so they could be just like their rabbi.

What are we expecting when we pray to bind Satan? Does Scripture teach us to “Bind Satan?”

3 Observations about Binding the Devil

The devil is not omnipresent.

3 Observations about Binding the Devil

There is no Scripture that teaches us to bind the devil or bind demons.

3 Observations about Binding the Devil

We don’t have to bind the strong man. Jesus already did. (Matthew 12).

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8] Come near to God and he will come near to you. (James 4:7-8)

I am not even resisting the enemy, let alone binding him, until I submit myself to God and say, “Not my will, but your will. Jesus, what do you want me to do?”

1) Ask yourself: ***Am I too busy building my kingdom to pay attention to His?***

Let’s be honest: It’s easy to say no to Jesus.

2) If I want to experience Jesus working in my life, I must submit to His will.

When I pray in His will, it’s ALREADY done.

God takes initiative to draw us, but He also responds to our initiative. “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (James)

I wonder: What does God want to do in my life that isn’t getting done because I am not submitting to Him and drawing near to Him?

3) God's dreams for His Kingdom are bigger than ours, and He has already decided that the answer is "Yes" when we ask for "Immeasurably More."

What does Jesus want you to do?

What are you saying no to?

What are you saying yes to?

Someone said, “We often spend more time resisting God than resisting the devil.”