

Southside Baptist Church
Wednesday Night Worship – 7-24-24
Matthew Chapter 16 Part 3
Jesus will build His Church.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Jesus asked the disciples two questions.
- 2) Peter responded, “Thou are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
- 3) Jesus announced His Church.
 - a) Jesus identified Peter as “petros” - One whose faith is hard and unyielding.
 - b) Jesus identified Himself as “petra”. Jesus is the ROCK, the foundation of His Church.
- 4) Jesus said that the “gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) It is Jesus who is to build His Church, and like Peter, we are stones that can be used by Him to plug in wherever He desires, filling that gap, leading, serving, ministering, witnessing, teaching, giving, going, but all is directed and led by Jesus so that the growth is sure and solid.

2. Jesus speaks of the “keys of the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 16:19

a. Verse 19 –

- 1) To Peter, the disciples –
- 2) Context is key once again –
- 3) Peter responded to Jesus’ question that he believed that He was the Christ, the Son of God.
 - a) Jesus responding to Peter’s faith and not his person, makes it clear that He, Jesus is -
 - b) Peter can be seen as foundational just as the apostles were by Paul.
 - c) That which makes Peter a “petros”, a rock like man, is that there is the real “Petra” - Jesus Christ on which the Church is built.

b. What is believed concerning Peter within the Catholic Church?

1) Overview:

- a) They see Peter as the first pope based on Matthew 16:18.
- b) They believe Peter had authority over the other apostles.
- c) They believe in “apostolic succession”.
- d) They believe that Peter and the popes that would follow to be infallible when addressing the Bible and or issues.

c. What do we see in the Bible?

- 1) We see Peter sharing the Gospel and involved in what God is doing but find no scripture where Peter is described as in authority over the other apostles or even the church.
 - a) What we do find – Acts 15:1-23; Galatians 2:1-14; I Peter 5:1-5.
- 2) The idea of “apostolic succession” is not found anywhere in the Word.
 - a) They believe it is taught in II Timothy 2:2, 4:2-5, Titus 1:5, 2:1 and 2:15. What do you see?

- 3)The Bible does not teach that the apostles were infallible.
- 4)Peter did not claim any special role or authority in his writings.
- 5)Look at what Peter did say in I Peter 2:25 –

d.Back to verse 19:

- 1)The truth – it is Jesus that will build His Church and –
- 2)To Peter and the disciples. “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven...”
 - a)“keys” – used to speak of authority. A key is used to open a door.
 - b)Warren Weirsbe – “Peter was given the privilege of “opening” the door of faith to the Jews in Acts 2, the Samaritans in Acts 8 and to the Gentiles in Acts 10.”
- 3)“and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
 - a)To “**bind**” something meant that it was forbidden.
 - b)To “**loose**” something meant it was allowed, permitted.
 - c)The Amplified Bible really helps with this verse. Matthew 16:19 - “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be what is already bound (declared to be improper and unlawful) in heaven; and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be what is already loosed (declared lawful) in heaven.”

e.Verse 20 –

- 1)Why would Jesus tell them this?

3.Tonight’s Take Away:

a.I hope you can see how important it is to work hard to rightly divide God’s Word.

- 1)Words matter. Context matters. Culture matters. Harmony matters.

b.It is Jesus who will build His Church but isn’t it awesome that He desires to use us.