



Faith in Action



Matthew 16: 13-18

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of **Caesarea Philippi**, He was asking His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” **14** And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, [h]Elijah; but still others, [i]Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” **15** He *said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” **16** Simon Peter answered, “You are [i]the Christ, the Son of the living God.” **17** And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon [k]Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18** I also say to you that you are [i]Peter, and upon this [m]rock I will **build My church (ekklesia)**; and the **gates of Hades** will not overpower it.





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Mediterranean sea

Zarephath

Litani River

Mt. Hermon

Belforth

Tyre

Metulla

Abel-Beth Maachah

DAN

BANIAS
(Caesarea Philippi)

Qana

Tibnin

GALILEE

Kadesh

Rosh Haniqra (Ladder of Tyre)

Achzib

Mi'ilya

Jish

Hazor

NAHARIYYA

Pekiin

Safad

Mt. Shezor

Meron

Rama

AKKO (Acre)

Mt. Hazon

Capernaum

Shefar'im

Khirbet Qana

Tabgha

Migdal

Sea of Galilee

HAIFA

plain of el-Battauf

TIBERIAS

Ein Gev

Tirat Karmel

Carmel Range

Cana (Kafr Khanna)

Shepphoris (zippori)

Kinneret

Hula Valley

Jordan River





Real Life in the Kingdom

- and upon this [m]rock I will **build My church (ekklesia)**; and the **gates of Hades** will not overpower it.
- Once My Ekklesia starts to move in my power, **this vile place will be torn down!!**
 - Anywhere and everywhere that wrongs have ruled will be made right!!
 - Crackhouses, human trafficking, systemic poverty and hunger, human oppression, spiritual darkness



Fasting: two options

- We know there is something about fasting that seems to focus and release the power of God
- #1 – Look at me God, I am soo desperate for you to DO SOMETHING to fix this problem that is bothering me that I am willing to go hungry for a little while and deny myself the stuff I really enjoy to prove to you how serious I am!!!
- #2 – OR, God I am totally shutting down my life so I can hear from you and so you can change me and work in me and through me.



Isaiah 58: 3-12

‘Why have we fasted and You do not see? *Why* have we humbled ourselves and You do not [a]notice?’ Behold, on the day of your fast you find *your* desire, And drive hard all your workers. 4 “Behold, you fast for contention and strife and to strike with a wicked fist. You do not fast like *you do* today to make your voice heard on high.

5 “Is it a fast like this which I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it for bowing [b]one’s head like a reed And for spreading out sackcloth and ashes as a bed? Will you call this a fast, even an acceptable day to the LORD?

6 “Is this not the fast which I choose, To loosen the bonds of wickedness, To undo the bands of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free And break every yoke?

7 “Is it not to divide your bread [c]with the hungry And bring the homeless poor into the house; When you see the naked, to cover him; And not to hide yourself from your own flesh?



Isaiah 58, continued

“Then your light will break out like the dawn, And your recovery will speedily spring forth; And your righteousness will go before you; The glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. ⁹“Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; You will cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’ If you remove the yoke from your midst, The [d]pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness, ¹⁰ And if you [e]give yourself to the hungry And satisfy the [f]desire of the afflicted, Then your light will rise in darkness And your gloom *will become* like midday. ¹¹ “And the LORD will continually guide you, And satisfy your [g]desire in scorched places, And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water whose waters do not [h]fail. ¹² “Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the [i]streets in which to dwell.



And the Walls Will Tumble!!

- Ed Silvoso says that when the Kingdom comes, I always leads to tearing down unrighteousness where you live – things that are wrong will be made RIGHT
- What did you hear the Voice of the Lord saying to you just now, listening to Isaiah discuss fasting?
- How did you feel, hearing His Heart?
- Do you feel the Spirit moving you to make any particular choices or take any specific actions after hearing this passage?
- Are you being focused on any specific Gates of Hell in your life or in the community where you live?



Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY