



Pastor Scott Velain

Matthew Chapters 16b and 17

The Prophecies of Death And Deception

Last week during our study into the 16th chapter of the book of Matthew we talked about our Messiah and what he said to the hypocritical rabbinical rabbis of his time when he asked them how it was that they could interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky but that they could not interpret the signs of the times. And we made mention of the fact that it is extremely simple to be able to discern the signs of the times unless we willfully and intentionally choose not to see them.

But the point is that what we're seeing here in Matthew chapter 16 is another rebuking of the men who were standing behind the pulpits of our Messiah's time and once again, this is extremely important for us to see today in our time. These very same men who were proclaiming themselves as men of God in our Messiah's time... these very same men who were standing behind the pulpits of our Messiah's time... were the very same men who were the archenemies of not only our Messiah but also of his Father.

And as we continue on through the 16th chapter of the book of Matthew, I want us to pay particularly close attention to the damage that these hypocritical rabbinical Pharisees and scribes who were standing behind the pulpits of our Messiah's time had done. It was through their lies and through their hypocrisy and their adding to God's word and taking away from God's word in order to usurp the power and the authority of God's word that these wicked children of the devil literally had people believing the false religion that they were propagating instead of the spoken word of Yehovah the one true Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this once again is exactly why our Messiah had to come to re-teach his disciples so that they would know the truth.

When you have men that are standing behind pulpits preaching and teaching their own man-made narcissistic vanity and their own man-made commandments and laws and Sabbath and precepts... what we wind up with is a train wreck. People who were attending the synagogues that were the churches of the day back in our Messiah's time were being fed nothing more than a pack of lies that were being propagated by these hypocritical rabbinical Pharisees who themselves were children of the devil according to our Messiah. And this is monumentally important for us to understand. The fact that the greatest enemies of our Messiah were the men who were standing behind the pulpits of his time should be a cold bucket of water in the face of today's modern day professing Christians who are more times than not taught the exact same narcissism and vanity of men that the apostles and the people of our Messiah's time were being taught. And this is exactly why our Messiah had to come and re-teach his apostles and his disciples the truth of his Father's word.

Every single solitary modern day professing Christian in our day ought to take the time to stop sit down and to slow down and to ponder exactly who it was that were the archenemies of our Messiah back in his day. Keeping this in mind, I'd like us to go back and just re-read Matthew chapter 16 verses five through 28 just to refresh our memories about exactly what it was that our Messiah was attempting to re-teach his apostles and his disciples. **Matthew 16:5-28 E1**

The Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees

Mat 16:5 When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring any bread.

Mat 16:6 Jesus said to them, "Watch and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

Mat 16:7 And they began discussing it among themselves, saying, "We brought no bread."

Mat 16:8 But Jesus, aware of this, said, "O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread?"

Mat 16:9 Do you not yet perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you gathered?"

Mat 16:10 Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you gathered?"

Mat 16:11 How is it that you fail to understand that I did not speak about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

Mat 16:12 Then they understood that he did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

Mat 16:13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

Mat 16:14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Mat 16:15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

Mat 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Mat 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Mat 16:20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Mat 16:21 From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

Mat 16:22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you."

Mat 16:23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus

Mat 16:24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

Mat 16:25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Mat 16:26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Mat 16:28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The very first thing that we see here in Matthew chapter 16 verse six is our Messiah warning his disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. And what is so ironic about this... is that his disciples started talking about bread as though our Messiah was talking to them about food. And we can tell that this greatly disturbed our Messiah when he stops and turns around in verse eight and asks them why it is that they're talking about bread. And our Messiah asks them

point blank... “How is it that you fail to understand that I did not speak to you about bread?” And then he repeats himself again “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees”.

And it wasn't until our Messiah had taken the time to stop and rebuke them and to repeat himself that they finally understood that he was talking about the teachings of the rabbinical Pharisees and the Sadducees and not about bread or food. You see, our Messiah was once again trying to warn his apostles not to follow the teachings of the rabbinical Pharisees that they thought were men of God... but to watch out for the false teachings of the rabbinical Pharisees who were indeed sinful... hence the use of the word “leaven” which means “yeast” and is often times used as a metaphor for sin which by the way... is the transgression of the law.

Once again, our Messiah often times spoke in parables. Almost everything that our Messiah ever said he said with meaning and with purpose and he was trying to train up his disciples to understand what he was saying in a spiritual way not always in a physical way. I'd like us to listen closely to what the apostle Paul said in **Romans chapter 7 verses 13 and 14 (scrn 1)**

The Law Is Spiritual!

Rom 7:13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.



Knowing and understanding that the law is spiritual... this should cause us to slow

us down at least to some degree in order to ponder what not only our Messiah is attempting to teach us but also what his apostles are attempting to teach us. Much of what we find in both the Old Testament and the New Testament can only be properly understood by the spirit and not by the flesh. This my friends is where many modern-day professing Christian stumble and fall.

When our Messiah was speaking about leaven (which is another word for yeast) as disciples automatically thought that he was talking about bread. But the reason that they thought that he was talking about bread was because they were not yet brought up in the spirit. They weren't used to thinking in the spirit. They automatically took it for granted that because he was talking about leaven, he must've been talking about bread. And this is the exact same problem that many modern-day professing Christians have as well. We often times forget that the law is spiritual and not necessarily always physical even though it most certainly does spill over into the physical. The law... the spoken word... the Torah of our Father in heaven must first be understood spiritually so that... proper obedience can be defined and take place in the physical.

Now that might sound somewhat confusing at first but what our Messiah is teaching us here in Matthew chapter 16 concerning the leaven of the Pharisees is a perfect example of this concept which is indeed a concept that we must also understand.

And we're going to get into much more spiritual language as we run down through Matthew chapter 16 verses 13 through 20. Let's go back and read Matthew chapter 16 verses 13 through 20 very quickly so that we can see if we recognize the spiritual implications of what our Messiah is telling Peter in these next few verses. This is an extremely important exercise. **Matthew chapter 16 verses 13 through 20 E2**

Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

Mat 16:13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

Mat 16:14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Mat 16:15 He said to them, "**But who do you say that I am?**"

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered him, "**Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.**"

Mat 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

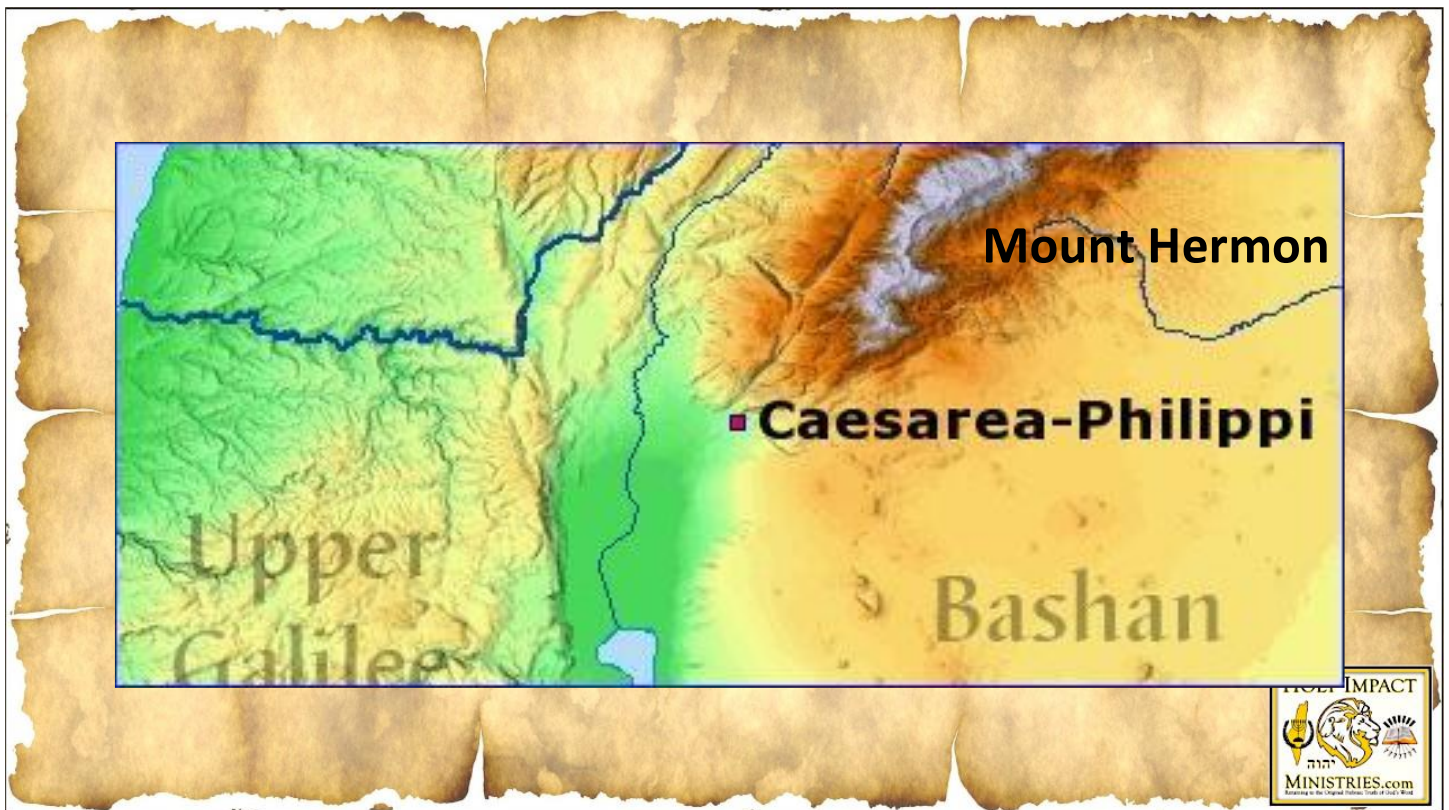
Mat 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Mat 16:20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

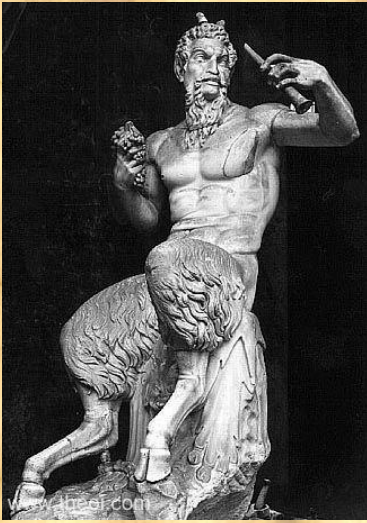
Once again, the spiritual implications of what is being communicated here by our Messiah is tectonically important to properly understand. For those who may not know... the Roman Catholic Church was built upon the deceptive twisting of these very Scriptures found in Matthew chapter 16.

The Roman Catholic Church was founded on the man-made idea that the apostle Peter was the first Pope of Rome. The Roman Catholic Church will shamefully and ignorantly attempt to teach its followers that Peter was the first pope of Rome and that all other Roman Catholic popes follow after and hold the office of... Peter. And they will shamefully and ignorantly attempt to teach their followers that because our Messiah told Peter that he would give Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and because he told Peter whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven... there man-made demonically inspired Church of Rome can do whatever she damn well pleases. And yes... I said whatever she damn well pleases because what she pleases is indeed damned and there should be no mistake about that.

Once again, our Messiah was speaking spiritually to Peter. And it's also important for us to understand where it was that our Messiah and Peter were standing when our Messiah spoke these words to Peter. Exactly what rock was it that our Messiah said that he would build his church upon? Was it the rock known as Peter... or was it the rock that they were standing on at the foot of Mount Herman? **(srn 2)**



It is written in Matthew chapter 16 verse 13 that our Messiah and Peter were standing in the district of Caesarea Philippi which is located at the foot of Mount Herman. And Mount Herman has been well known throughout history to be one of the most demonic places on the face of the earth. In our Messiah's time one of the most well-known pagan temples was built right there at the foot of Mount Herman. And this was the pagan temple of a demon god known as "Pan" (**scrn 3 SHOW ONLY**)



Pan is known to be one of the oldest Greek gods. He is associated with wooded areas and pasturelands from which his name is derived. Pan ruled over shepherds, hunters and rustic music and was often in the company of the wood nymphs and other deities of the forest.



Apart from the supreme God of the lofty Israelite sanctuary, other gods were evidenced to have been worshipped in the area. The god Pan is often connected with the headwaters of the Jordan river in that area. Inscriptions on stones used in the church of Heleliye near Sidon have referred to Threption, son of Neikon offering stone lions to Zeus. Other deities noted to have been worshipped in the area were called Theandrios and Leucothea, which were likely Greek names substituted for native Canaanite gods.

And so, it is well-known that that area right there in Caesarea Philippi which was located at the foot or the base of Mount Herman was inundated with all kinds of pagan temples that were specifically created for the worship of other pagan gods. When our Messiah tells Peter that it would be on this rock that he would build his church that the gates of hell would not prevail against it... Peter would've known full well where they were standing and what was all around them. And so, the question then becomes... was our Messiah talking about Peter the rock... or was he talking about Mount Herman the rock which was an abomination to God at that time?

To be completely honest it's impossible to know which rock that our Messiah was talking about. But either way... it seems eerily peculiar that both our Messiah and

Peter during this conversation were standing at the foot of Mount Herman where according to the book of Enoch is also the exact place where the fallen angels had descended upon from heaven. And it is at this very same Mount Herman that we will later see the Transfiguration of our Messiah taking place as well in the very next chapter. And so, there should be no doubt in our minds that our Messiah was all over this mountain making it clear who this mountain truly belonged to consistently poking the devil in the eye with his finger. We must always remember that this rock that we live on called “earth” was indeed created by Yehovah for Yehovah.

And we must also always remember that Peter himself was a human man and not a god on earth. In fact, Peter was often times rebuked by our Messiah. And a perfect example of this can be found just a few verses down in Matthew chapter 16 verse 23 when our Messiah says to Peter and I quote, “Get behind me Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God but on the things of man.”

And so... let us not be so foolish as to think that Peter was some kind of blasphemous Pope god on earth as the Pope of Rome himself proclaims to be. Peter was an apostle... Peter was a student of our Messiah not our Messiah. And just like you and I, our Messiah has built his assembly upon what consists of all of us not just one of us. Once again, if we take a look at the actual Greek language our Messiah did not say “upon this rock I will build my church” (**scrn 4**)

Upon This Rock
I Will Build My Congregation!

Mat 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

“church” = “ek-klay-see-ah” (ekklesia) = CONGREGATION

Mat 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my CONGREGATION, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.



Once again, there is no such thing as a “church” found in the New Testament. When we see the English word “church” in our new Testaments we must understand that this English word “church” comes from the Greek word “ekklesia” which means “congregation” or “a community of Saints”. It does not mean “church” and this is another extremely important point that needs to be made when we are reading our English translated New Testament Bibles. And there should be no doubt in anyone’s mind that the Roman Catholic Church knows this full well. But because everything that she teaches is built upon the foundation of lies and deceptions... you will never hear her blasphemous Roman Catholic priests who call themselves “fathers” revealing this truth to you or to your children. And just as it is written... for those who endure to the end... the gates of hell shall certainly not prevail against us just as our Messiah has already foretold us.

When our Messiah told Peter that he would give him the keys to the kingdom of heaven we should be wise enough to know that every one of us have been given the keys to the kingdom of heaven. The keys to the kingdom of heaven is the blood of our Messiah! It was upon this very rock that our Messiah would build his assembly and the gates of hell would surely not prevail against his assembly. And it is for this very reason that our Messiah came to be our Passover lamb and to crush the head of the serpent with his heel. All of us as his disciples have been given these exact same

keys to the kingdom of heaven and those keys have everything to do with the love of God which boils down to our obedience and his commandments that are written across our hearts and in our minds according to Jeremiah chapter 31 verse 33 of the Old Testament and Hebrews chapter 8 verse 10 of the New Testament, and Hebrews chapter 10 verse 16, and Luke chapter 22 verse 20, and Matthew chapter 26 verse 28 and first John chapter 5 verse three and I could go on and on and on. And it should be of no surprise to us that our Messiah told Peter that whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven giving us all the ability to bind evil spirits and to cast out demons in his name while continuing to follow him back to his Father in heaven. These are things that were given not only to Peter as his apostle... but to all of his congregation as disciples. Our Messiah is the quintessential key that unlocks the door to heaven my friends. And we should not allow the wicked rambling of Roman Catholic popery to blur the lines between the truth and the lie according to our God breathed Scripture.

We as his disciples also have this power through the name of our Messiah and King if... if... he truly is our Messiah and King. To bind evil and wickedness and to set free those who are in bondage through the word of Yehovah that we speak in the name of his only begotten Son is a power that only his chosen set apart assembly have been given.

What we see here in Matthew chapter 16 has absolutely nothing to do with the birth of the devil's church who blasphemes the Sabbath days of God himself and the feast days and the commandments and the precepts and the appointments of the one true Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. There is absolutely nothing in this language found in Matthew chapter 16 or anywhere else in the Bible that foretells of another human man that would be sitting on earth upon a golden throne proclaiming himself to be God on earth. At least not until we get into the book of Revelation which prophesies about these many popes who have all come in his name claiming to be him. But that's another study within itself that we don't have time for here today but is indeed... soon coming.

Once again, we must be able to understand the spiritual implications of what our Messiah was trying to tell us. The law, the spoken word, is indeed spiritual and needs to be spiritually understood by those who are spiritual. We must always remember that one of the very first things that our Messiah tells us in Matthew chapter 24 when his disciples came to him asking him what the signs of the end of the age would be... was to make sure that no one leads us astray. He said and I

quote in Matthew chapter 24 verse five, “For many will come in my name saying, “I am the Messiah” and they will lead many astray”. Once again my friends, I ask you plainly... how many Roman Catholic popes have there been all claiming to be the Messiah? According to our Messiah and his red-letter words we are not allowed to allow them to lead us astray. There is only one only begotten Son of God, and his name is Yeshua, and it is this one Yeshua that is, was, and always will be the seed of Abraham the descendent of David the only begotten Son of God. And anyone else who attempts to blaspheme his name by claiming that they are him... should stand out in the crowd as blasphemous children of the devil himself who are bound nowhere else other than the pit.

We were warned by our Messiah against the exact same things that the Roman Catholic Church has propagated around the world for generations and has also taught to her daughter protestant churches who today protest against absolutely nothing and should be ashamed of themselves for following after the exact same harlot that our Messiah warned us to come out of lest we share in her sins and in her plagues. And make no mistake about it my friends... this harlot that rides the beast who is drunk on the blood of the martyrs of our Messiah is soon going to experience the wrath of the one true Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob whose throne this harlot wickedly proclaims to sit upon. Those who have not come out of her will indeed experience the wrath of God himself in the plagues that he himself will bestow upon her.

Moving on to Matthew chapter 16 verses 21 through 23, we hear our Messiah prophesying and foretelling his death and his resurrection. In Matthew chapter 16 verse 21 our Messiah makes it crystal clear to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and even be murdered and on the third day be raised. And my friends, I would like to once again exemplify and highlight, and capitalize what our Messiah says in Matthew chapter 16 verse 21 when he says and I quote, “And be murdered and on the third day be raised”.

Did our Messiah ever tell us that he was going to be raised in two days and two nights? How then do we get three days and three nights from a Good Friday crucifixion? The answer to that question is simply, we do not. Once again, the false narrative that has been propagated about our Messiah being crucified on a Roman Catholic created Good Friday falls flat on its face when compared to what the Bible says and what the Bible does not say. According to all four Gospels Matthew, Mark,

Luke, and John our Messiah was crucified on Passover day at the exact same time that the Passover lambs were being sacrificed at the temple. This is why our Messiah is called our Passover lamb in first Corinthians chapter 5 verse seven. And he was raised up on first fruits which according to Leviticus chapter 23 occurs after the first Sabbath after the Passover which does not fall on the Roman Catholic created Easter Sunday morning. Once again... blasphemous and deceptive dragon festivals and traditions that come directly from a blasphemous and deceptive church who follows after a blasphemous and deceptive devil who loves to dress himself up like an angel of light. And yet... Billions of people around the world both Catholic and protestants... willfully and intentionally bow their knee to the Pope of Rome's first day of the week Sunday Sabbath, Good Friday, Easter, Lent, Advent, Christmas, and even all saint's day (also known as Halloween) which is clearly the devil's favorite time of the year.

It's time to wake up my friends. And it's time to wake up our families and our communities and our children and our children's children. It's past time for true God-fearing Messiah following cross bearing Christians to be the sowers that we were called to be in these last days. If we are not sowing the seed of truth, then how will they hear it? Will they hear it from behind today's pulpits? Will they hear it from the nation's leaders? Will they hear it from a king or from a queen or from a prime minister? There is only one that they will hear the truth from. And that is from Yehovah's chosen set apart remnant people are indeed... one. If we don't sow the seed, the seed cannot be grown. We must and I repeat must... do our part as the Sowers of the seed.

And yet... as we have discussed earlier even when our Messiah tells his disciples exactly what must take place and that he must go to Jerusalem and that he must suffer things from the elders and from the chief priests and the scribes and that he must be murdered and on the third day be raised... what does Peter do? Peter flat out denies what our Messiah just told him must take place and proclaims that this shall never happen to him. Upon which time our Messiah once again fires back at Peter and tells him and I quote, "Get behind me Satan, you are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God but on the things of man."

And so, if Peter was the first pope? I would submit to you that Peter was not a very good Pope was he? And isn't it interesting that our Messiah directly calls Peter... "Satan"? I don't know about you, but I find this all rather peculiar. It's as though our Messiah already knew that the devil would attempt to create his own church on

earth by deceiving people about who Peter actually was. And if you will remember correctly, it was indeed Peter who denied our Messiah three different times. Of all of the apostles that the Roman Catholic Church could have possibly chosen to point to... it seems to me that there is something very telling about exactly who it is that the Roman Catholic church and her Pope claim to be... and it's not Peter was by the way a man who made mistakes just like we all make mistakes.

After all the Pope of Rome proclaims that he is Yeshua the Messiah in the flesh. Which would make Peter... Yeshua the Messiah in the flesh if Peter was indeed the first pope! And from watching and listening to Peter's stumbling's... somehow, I don't think that Peter was Yeshua. I'm pretty sure that that's a pretty hard sell even for the most mentally challenged among us. I think that Peter was Peter and I think that Yeshua was Yeshua and I know for a fact... that the Pope of Rome is nothing short of the son of the devil who is indeed without a doubt... Anti-Messiah which is also known as... Anti-Christ!

When the apostle Peter misspoke, he was called "Satan". I would submit to you my friends that the Roman Catholic Church has done nothing but misspeak since the days of her inception. And so then... if Peter was called "Satan" for misspeaking and going against the word of God... then how much more should the Roman Catholic Church be called "Satan" for misspeaking and going against the word of God? If the Pharisees and the scribes were called children of the devil for misspeaking and going against the word of God... then how much more should the Roman Catholic Church be called children of the devil for misspeaking and going against the word of God? I would submit to you my friends that what is good for the goose... is also good for the gander.

Which leads us very, very nicely into Matthew chapter 16 verses 24 to 28 where our Messiah tells us very clearly to pick up our crosses and to follow him. Not the Pope of Rome, not some rabbi, not some pastor, priest, Bishop, or Buddha... not a man... but to follow him and to walk as he walked and to do as he did. But Matthew chapter 16 verses 24 through 28 also holds even more astonishing information that we also need to properly understand. Let's take the time now to go back and reread **Matthew chapter 16 verses 24 through 28 E3**

Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus

Mat 16:24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

Mat 16:25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Mat 16:26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Mat 16:28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Our Messiah tells us right here in Matthew chapter 16 verse 24 that if anyone would come after him, they would need to take up their cross in order to follow him and I'd like to stop right here for just a moment and talk about exactly what this means. Again, our Messiah is speaking in somewhat of a parable and yet... this parable should be fairly easy for us to understand.

By picking up our cross and following him we are agreeing to follow our Messiah even down into the grave where he was about to go. We must remember that none of us is going to enter into his soon coming kingdom while still wearing these fleshly bodies. **First Corinthians 15:50-55 (scrn 5)**

Human Flesh Cannot Enter God's Kingdom...

1Co 15:50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

1Co 15:51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.

1Co 15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

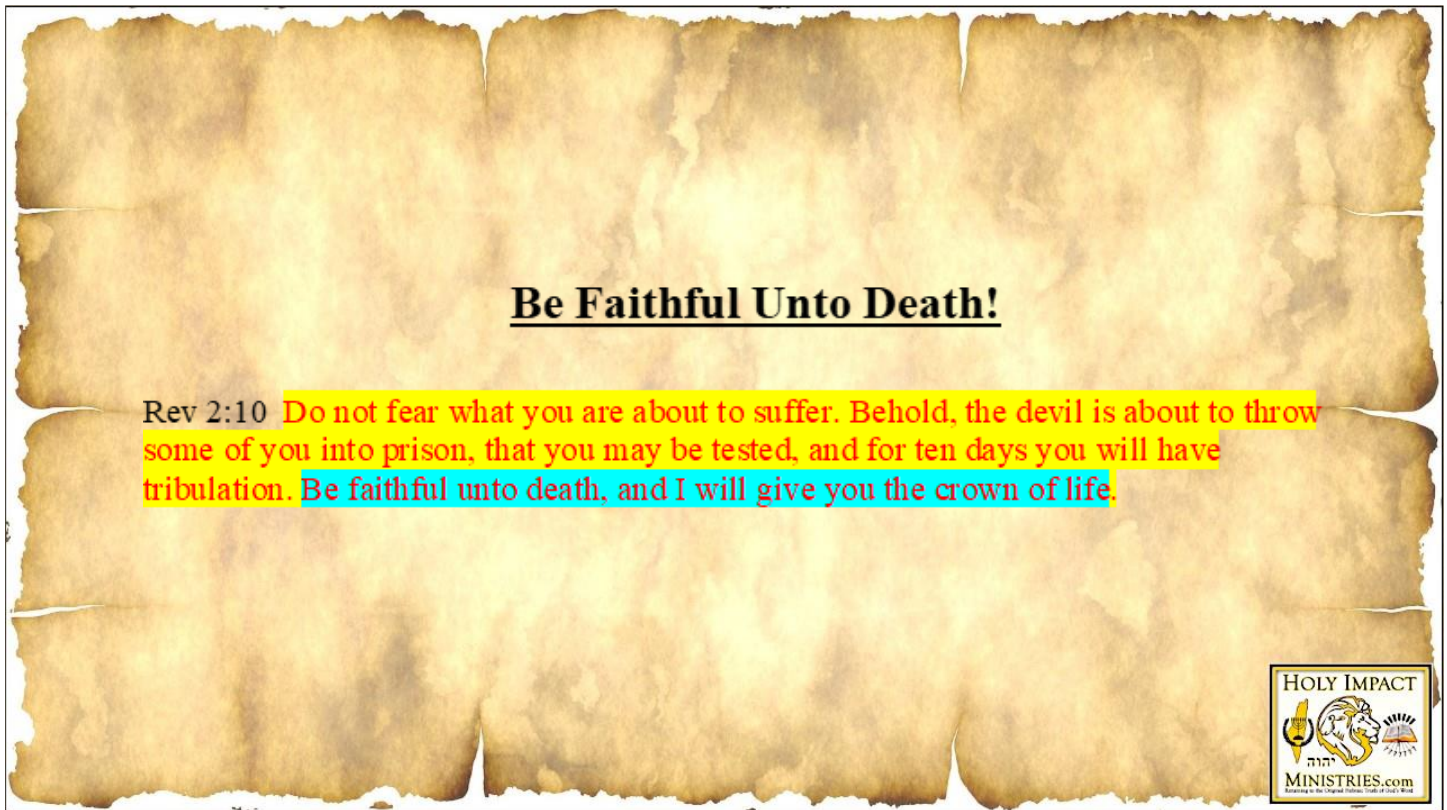
1Co 15:54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

1Co 15:55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"



Our Messiah had to be transformed from a fleshly body into an imperishable body

just as we will need to be transformed from these fleshly bodies into imperishable bodies. And so, what our Messiah is trying to tell us here in Matthew chapter 16 verse 24 is that we must choose him and hold fast to his name even unto death just as he told the assembly in Smyrna in the book of Revelation. (scrn 6)



And once again our Messiah tells us in the very next verse in Matthew chapter 16 verse 25, that whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for his namesake will find it. And therefore... we as true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christian must be prepared not to save our own lives here on earth... but to lose our lives for his namesake just as he tells us here in the book of Matthew and just as he tells us again in the book of Revelation. And I dare to say that this is a far cry from what the church today is teaching and preaching and preparing their congregations for.

Today in our time it's all about the pre-tribulation rescue that Hollywood has propagated. It's all about a God that only knows love and knows nothing of justice or sacrifice or obedience. And once again I would submit to you that today's modern-day rabbinical Pharisees and scribes who are standing behind our pulpits today in our time are no better than the rabbinical Pharisees and scribes of our Messiah's time who were standing behind the pulpits of his time preaching the

exact same narcissistic vanity and the exact same man-made doctrines that are being commanded today not by God... but by men.

In the end my friends it's not about running or being rescued... it's about standing, it's about making a sacrifice, it's about remaining obedient even unto death. According to our Messiahs red letter words, we as God's chosen set apart remnant people better be prepared to go the distance for him just as our Messiah... went the distance for us.

And I would also like to make mention of what our Messiah tells us in verse 27 when he tells us that the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, when he will repay each person according to what he has done. This once again is monumentally important to understand. Those who say that works are dead are they themselves... dead. The apostle James tells us very clearly that faith without works is dead. Just as the body apart from the spirit is dead... faith without works is also dead. And this is clearly locked into what we see here in Matthew chapter 16 verse 27 when our Messiah tells us that he will repay each person according to what he has done. If you are not bearing fruit and you have no good works, then you have nothing to be repaid for.

Which brings us into a very intriguing verse of the Bible found in Matthew chapter 16 verse 28 where our Messiah tells his disciples and I quote, "Truly I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

This single verse seems to have dumbfound many modern-day Christians today who simply do not understand what our Messiah was telling his disciples here in Matthew chapter 16. The first thing that we need to understand is that there are many incorrect translations that we can find throughout our English translated Bibles. We must remember... that what we are looking at when we open any English translated Bible... is a translation of a translation. What does this mean? It means that the Bible was not written in English. The original language of the Hebrew people was written in the Hebrew language. And a large portion of the New Testament was written in the Greek language that had become the language of the land when Rome moved in and occupied Jerusalem.

And so, it's important for us to often times go back and look at the original language instead of simply trusting what our English translated Bibles tell us and

yes... this includes your King James version of the Bible.

Many will ask me if I believe that the Bible is inherent which means “absolutely true and correct” and my reply to that question is indeed a resounding yes. But... only if we understand the original language. Only if we study what the Bible says in depth. Only if... we get down on our knees and ask for his discernment.

Almost everyone knows that in less than 10 seconds I can show you 6519 mistakes in your English translated Bible and yes that includes your King James version of the Bible. All we have to do is look at the word “LORD” in the Old Testament. All we have to do is turn to **Exodus chapter 3 verse 15. E4**

Exo 3:15 God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘**The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.**’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

If we look closely at Exodus chapter 3 verse 15 we will see that in most of our English translated Bibles the word “LORD” will be found in capital letters. And there’s a reason for this. This word “LORD” that is written in capital letters is literally covering up the very name of God in your Bible. God’s name... that he wrote in his God breathed Scripture over 6519 times in your Bible.

According to Brown driver Briggs Hebrew definitions the word “LORD” in your Old Testament is a horrendous blunder by the translators. Our Father in heaven wrote his name in his God breathed Scripture over 6519 times and they covered it up with “LORD”. I can assure you my friends... that our Father in heaven is not a 16th-century British land barren which is what a Lord is.

And I show you this for the purpose of teaching everyone within the sound of my voice how important it is to often times go back and to look at the original Hebrew and Greek language so that... we might better understand exactly what it is that both our Messiah and his Father in heaven are trying to tell us in our English translated Bibles. Keeping this in mind... let’s now return to **Matthew chapter 16 verse 28 (scrn 7)**

Mat 16:28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

“coming” = “er-khom-ahee” (erchomai) = “APPEAR”

“kingdom” = “bas-il-i-ah” (basilea) = “ROYALTY”

Mat 16:28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man APPEAR in his ROYALTY!”



And so, once again if we take a look at the original Greek language... we find that what our Messiah was trying to conveying to his disciples is that some that were standing there with him would not taste death until they saw the Son of Man appear in his royalty. Now why is this important? Keeping this in mind let's now continue by reading the beginning of the very next chapter in **Matthew chapter 17 verses one through 13; E5**

The Transfiguration

Mat 17:1 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

Mat 17:2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Mat 17:3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Mat 17:4 And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

Mat 17:5 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

Mat 17:6 When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified.

Mat 17:7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.”

Mat 17:8 And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

Mat 17:9 And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

Mat 17:10 And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?"

Mat 17:11 He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things."

Mat 17:12 But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands."

Mat 17:13 Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Now we can better understand what our Messiah was trying to tell his disciples back in Matthew chapter 16 verse 28 when he said and I quote, "Truly I say to you there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man appear in his royalty." What just happened right here in the very next chapter while they were once again standing upon Mount Herman? They just saw our Messiah appearing in his royalty with both Moses and Elijah. And so the prophecy of Matthew chapter 16 verse 28 was fulfilled that said that some who were still alive would see him appear in his royalty. He was not talking about his second coming as some assume. Was talking about what some of the apostles see as he was transfigured on Mount Herman and seen both Moses and Elijah.

But there's more here than meets the eye. If we jump down to Matthew chapter 17 verses 11 through 13, we see something else extraordinary that our Messiah tells his disciples. **E6**

Mat 17:10 And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?"

Mat 17:12 But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands."

Mat 17:13 Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

When the disciples asked our Messiah about Elijah coming first (because it was written in the Torah that Elijah would come first) our Messiah tells his disciples that Elijah has already come, and they didn't recognize him. And it was because they did not recognize him... that the Son of Man would need to suffer at their hands. And then the disciples understood what he was speaking to them of John the Baptist back in **Matthew chapter 11 verse 14 (scrn 8)**

John The Baptist Was Elijah...

Mat 11:13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John,

Mat 11:14 and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.

Mat 11:14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.

“for to come” = “er-khom-ahee” (erchomai) = “APPEAR”



And so, our Messiah is indeed allowing his disciples to see and to understand several mysteries that have already happened. Notice in Matthew chapter 11 verse 14, that our Messiah says that John the Baptist was Elijah who had already come. Now in our some of our English translated Bibles it says that our Messiah said “Elijah who is to come” which suggests... that Elijah is going to come again. But when we look at this exact same Scripture in the King James version and we look closely once again at the original Greek language... we do not see our Messiah saying “he is Elijah who **is to come**”.

In other words, our Messiah does not say that Elijah is necessarily going to come again in the future when we take a look at the original language. This does not mean that Elijah won't come again as one of the two witnesses... but... it also does not mean that he will come as one of the two witnesses that are foretold to come in the book of Revelation. And our Messiah never actually tells us that Elijah is going to come again. And so, we are once again left somewhat perplexed as to who the two witnesses of Revelation are actually going to be. Could it be Moses and Enoch as some speculate? Or will it indeed be Moses and Elijah? Or... might it be Joshua and Caleb? Only time will tell. But we should make no mistake about the fact that our

Messiah does not say here in Matthew chapter 11 verse 14 that Elijah is going to come again. According to our Messiah... Elijah has already come. The future tense is simply not found in the original language. Which once again does not mean that Elijah won't come in the future... it just means that our Messiah did not say that he would specifically.

And so, my hope and my prayer is that this evenings study has been a blessing to you and that you will once again ponder these things and test them through study and through the fire of prayer because I tell you the truth my friends... We are closer now than when we first believed to his soon coming kingdom. And what we are studying here this evening I believe is the most important thing that we can do in our lives today. To get down on our knees and to ask for his discernment so that we can understand his God breathed Scripture is indeed more important than anything else that we might be doing with our lives today.

Keeping that in mind this Sabbath morning... I will do as I always do and once again ask as I always do... that everyone within the sound of my voice would please... take what you have heard here today to your own prayer closet, and bow your head, and bend your knee, and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here today be true... or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door, and his door alone and the proper door will be opened to you. And if you will do that, and if you will stay the course to the end... you and I will surely walk through the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.