

Sunday, December 29, 2019 A.M.
Liberty Square
Dr. Ron Phillips

20/20 Vision for Advance

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Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

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

16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Introduction:

Has the church lost its fire?

C. T. Studd

***“Some wish to live
Within the sound
Of a Chapel Bell;
I wish to run a
Rescue mission
Within a yard of hell”***

Hudson Taylor

***“Forward Ever
Backward Never”***

Our task is defined by our Founder and the founding documents.

I. The God Factor

“I will build my church...”

Make no mistake about it – the church lives and will live!

- He planned it
- He paid for it
- He purposed it
- He is present in it
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- ***He wants to walk in the midst of His church.***

Matthew 18

18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father

which is in heaven.

*20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, **there am I in the midst of them.***

Rev 1:

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

*13 **And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.***

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Revelation 2

*1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, **who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;***

Rev:3

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and **open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**

Laodicea shut Him out! They said – we will take it from here...

-He Loves the Church

Eph 5:

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it

-He Prays for the Church

Hebrew 7

24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make **intercession for them.**

II. The Gathering Factor

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

"Jesus came to establish a gatheringa new race of humanity

...a Fatherhood ...a family ..a passionate....army..to be his body...bride and building....

He has given us the assignment to storm the gates of hell and rescue those who are lost!

Our problem!

1. Mission Drift

We substitute things that are good for that which is great:

- ***The important for the urgent***
- ***Our passion for His passion***
- ***Our activities for His assignment!***
- ***Social work for spiritual witness!***

God is looking for:

- Worshippers
- Witnesses
- Warriors

2. Mission Rifts

Substituting and arguing over our ideas of what the church ought to be about for the vision and mission He assigned us.

So churches have rifts.

III. The Gifts Factor. 3 kinds of gifts

I will give you the keys to the Kingdom..."

1. The gift of the gospel

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

2. The gifts of the Spirit

Ephesians 4

1 Corinthians 12

3. The Gift of Growth

Matthew 16:19

And I will give you the **keys of the kingdom** of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

"Keys" Lock and Unlock

"Key of David"

Isaiah 22:22

The **key of the house of David**

I will lay on his shoulder;

So he shall open, and no one shall shut;

And he shall shut, and no one shall open.

Revelation 3:7

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write,

'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the **key of David**, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":

**Key to granary
Key to treasury
Key to armory**

-Granary

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

***Cast your bread upon the waters,
For you will find it after many days.***

***2 Give a serving to **seven**, and also to **eight**,
For you do not know what evil will be on the
earth.***

***3 If the clouds are full of rain,
They empty themselves upon the earth;
And if a tree falls to the south or the north,
In the place where the tree falls, there it
shall lie.***

***4 He who observes the wind will not sow,
And he who regards the clouds will not reap.***

***5 As you do not know what is the way of the
wind,
Or how the bones grow in the womb of her
who is with child,
So you do not know the works of God who
makes everything.***

***6 In the morning sow your seed,
And in the evening do not withhold your
hand;***

***For you do not know which will prosper,
Either this or that,
Or whether both alike will be good.***

Treasury

Malachi 3:10

***Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the Lord of hosts,
"If I will not open for you the windows of
heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive
it.***

[Armory](#)

***Psalms 149:1-9
Praise the Lord!***

***Sing to the Lord a **new song**,
And His praise in the assembly of saints.***

***2 Let Israel **rejoice** in their Maker;
Let the children of Zion be **joyful** in their
King.***

***3 Let them **praise** His name with the dance;
Let them **sing praises** to Him with the timbrel
and harp.***

***4 For the Lord takes pleasure in His people;
He will beautify the humble with salvation.***

***5 Let the saints be **joyful** in glory;
Let them **sing aloud** on their **beds**.***

***6 Let the **high praises of God** be in their
mouth,***

And a **two-edged sword** in their hand,

***7 To execute **vengeance** on the nations,
And **punishments** on the peoples;***

8 To **bind their kings with chains**,

And their **nobles with fetters of iron**;

***9 To execute on them the written judgment —
This **honor have all His saints**.***

Praise the Lord!

***Oh for a passion for souls
Oh for a pity that burns
Oh for a love that loves unto death
Oh for a fire that burns***

***To make our weak hearts
Strong and brave
Send the fire
Send the fire
To live a dying
World to save
Send the fire
Send the fire***

***Set us afire lord
Stir us we pray***