

Deeper Life Notes

God's Great Church: "The Prevailing Church" (Matthew 16:13-20)

Pastor Dan Osborn: April 19, 2020

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. - Romans 10:17 ESV

Warm up: What is the state of the Church in America?

***GOD'S GREAT CHURCH IS THE _____¹ CHURCH**

Read: [Matthew 16:13-20](#)

THREE REASONS THE CHURCH WILL PREVAIL (FROM MATTHEW 16):

1. BECAUSE JESUS _____² (v.18a) "I will build my church."

What is the Church? → *The community of God's worshiping people*

- *Visible:* Old and New Testament assembly of worshiping people, from our perspective (Deuteronomy 4:10, Acts 7:38, Hebrews 2:12, Hebrews 11-12)
- *Invisible:* "The Church as God sees it" - Wayne Grudem (Matthew 7:14-16)
- *Local:* How the church is expressed: mega-, building-, house-, city, region, etc. (Romans 16:5, 1 Corinthians 16:9)
- *Universal:* "Catholic," the Church in all places through all different times...
- *The "True Church":*

[EFCA Statement of Faith 7. The Church, Part A:](#) "We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers."

- *False Church:* False doctrine (2 Timothy 2:17,4:10) / "wolves" (Acts 20:29)

8 Metaphors of the Church:

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| 1. Family (John 1:12, 1 John 3:1-2) | 5. A Field (1 Corinthians 3:6-9) |
| 2. Body (1 Corinthians 12:12ff) | 6. A Building (1 Corinthians 3:9) |
| 3. Bride (Ephesians 5:32, 2 Corinthians 11:2) | 7. A Harvest (Matthew 13) |
| 4. Branches (John 15) | 8. A Temple/Priesthood (1 Cor 3:16, 1 Peter 2:9) |

¹ PREVAILING

² PROMISED

2. BECAUSE JESUS _____³ THE CHURCH (vv.15-16)

“Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.’”

A) He leads as the Worthy One: Revelation 5:1-10

B) He leads as the Head of His Body: Ephesians 1:22-23, 4:15-16, Colossians 2:19

→ *a Worshiping Church* (Eph 1:12, 5:15, Col 3:16)

→ *a Nurturing Church* (Eph 4:12-13, Col 1:28,

→ *a Witnessing Church* (Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Peter 3:15)

- Proclaiming the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-3, John 3:16)

- Living out the gospel: purity & mercy (Luke 6:36-36, Acts 11:29, 2 Cor 8:4)

3. BECAUSE JESUS _____⁴ THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH (v.18)

“I will build *my* church.” - Jesus

A) Not me, you, or anyone but Jesus alone will build His Church (Acts 2:47)

B) Not “Maybe...” or “Possibly...”!

C) Certainty: We can know for sure that the Church will be built!

D) Forever / For eternity! (Revelation 5:9)

***HEARING AND HEEDING THE WORD OF GOD:**

- *Will we join the True Church?*

The true church = “all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone.”

- *Will we follow the True Leader of the Church?* (Titus 3:4-9)

- *Will we use the keys of the kingdom to fulfill the Church's mission?* (Matthew 16:18)

³ LEADS

⁴ ASSURES