

**WHAT MAKES
A
GREAT CHURCH?**

THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST

MATTHEW 16:13-18

The Bible Says Christ Is The Head

Colossians 1:17-19

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

Matthew 16:13-18

13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

Matthew 16:13-18 - continued

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

I. He Must Be the Head Based on His Position (v16)

A. He is the Son of God

John 20:31

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

B. He gave His life for the church

Ephesians 5:25

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

I. He Must Be the Head Based on His Position (v16)

C. He will ultimately be our Judge

1. He will judge every soul that has ever lived

2 Timothy 4:1

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2. He is judging the church today

“I know thy works”

(Revelation 2:2, 9, 13, 19, 3:1, 8, 15)

II. He Must Be the Head Because He Is The Foundation (v18)

A. No man can be the foundation

1 Corinthians 3:11

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1. There will be no power

2. There will be no real change in lives

Isaiah 64:6

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

II. He Must Be the Head Because He Is The Foundation (v18)

B. The Past Cannot Be the Foundation

Luke 17:32

Remember Lot's wife.

- 1. Will always cause us to look backward and not forward**
- 2. Will cause us to rebel against the plan and will of God**
- 3. Will ultimately carry you back where you used to be**

Psalm 55:19

God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.

II. He Must Be the Head Because He Is The Foundation (v18)

C. Programs cannot be the foundation

Psalm 127:1

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

D. Jesus must be the foundation

Psalm 18:31

For who is God save the Lord? or who is a rock save our God?

III. He Must Be the Head Because Of Our Enemy

(v18)

A. Our enemy is powerful

1. In his deception

2 Thessalonians 2:9

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

2. In his hatred

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

III. He Must Be the Head Because Of Our Enemy

(v18)

B. Our enemy will attack

1. When God is moving

1 Thessalonians 2:18

Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

2. When God's people are excited

Acts 4:17

But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

III. He Must Be the Head Because Of Our Enemy

(v18)

B. Our enemy will attack

3. When God's church is growing

Acts 9:1

And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

III. He Must Be the Head Because Of Our Enemy

(v18)

C. Our enemy is defeated

Revelation 12:10-11

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Luke 6:46

**And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things
which I say?**

**IS CHRIST LORD
OF YOUR LIFE?**