

**Matthew 16:21-23:** 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. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> 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."

**Intro:** Last week, we studied what Jesus declared to Peter after Peter made his great declaration that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God: **Matthew 16:18-19:** And I tell you, you are Peter, & on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> 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.

**Summary: 1) Peter was not the first pope:** a) This text certainly teaches that Peter was and would be a leader  
b) Call no man pope: Matt. 23:9: And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.  
c) Jesus calls Peter Satan – at the very least this shows that Peter was not a special representative of Christ on earth  
d) Peter was rebuked by Paul because his conduct was not in step with the truth of the Gospel: Galatians 2:11-14  
e) God gave no pope: 1 Cor. 12:28: God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers  
f) Peter was married: 1 Corinthians 9:5: Do we not have the right to take along a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?  
g) Peter viewed himself as an elder like others: 1 Peter 5:1: So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder  
h) Nothing here or anywhere else in the Bible speaks of a pope over all the church who has supreme authority over the church or is the representative of Christ on earth or has a succession plan where this office will be passed down so that there would always be a pope on earth!

**2) Peter & his right confession about Jesus is the rock: Ephesians 2:19-20:** the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone

**Jonathan Leeman:** Jesus will build his church not on words, and not on people, but on people who believe the right gospel words. Jesus will build the church on confessors. Jesus then gave Peter and the apostles the keys of the kingdom, which gave Peter the authority to do what Jesus had just done with him: to act as God's official representative on earth for affirming true gospel confessions and confessors. The apostles had heaven's authority for declaring who on earth is a kingdom citizen and therefore represents heaven.

**3) Jesus then gave Peter and the apostles the keys of the kingdom: Matthew 18:1:** At that time the disciples came to Jesus . . . **Matthew 18:18:** Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**4) Now, the Church is the final authority under Christ to bind and loose on earth: Matthew 18:17:** If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church.

**5) Death, hell, & Satan can't stop Christ's church:** Death couldn't stop Jesus, & it won't stop His church!

**6) Jesus gives Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven & unique authority as the first to open the gates of heaven through the preaching of the Gospel:** Peter will be the first to preach the Gospel on that great day of Pentecost and use the keys of the preaching of the Gospel to open the gates (to loose the gates) of heaven to all sinners who would repent and believe!

**7) This binding and loosing function is finally given to the church (through the preaching of the Gospel and through church discipline): Matthew 18:15-18:** If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup> But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as

a Gentile and a tax collector.<sup>18</sup> Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**Jonathan Leeman:** I used to live and work in Brussels, Belgium. The U. S. Embassy there formally recognized me as a U. S. citizen and gave me a new passport when my old one expired. Even though I am a U. S. citizen, the embassy possesses an authority I don't possess—the authority to speak for and make provisional decisions on behalf of the government of the United States. By giving the keys of the kingdom first to Peter and the apostles and then to gathered churches, Jesus gave churches a similar authority to the U. S. Embassy in Brussels: the authority to make provisional judgments concerning what is a right confession of the Gospel (Matt. 16:13–19) and who is a citizen of the kingdom of heaven (18:15–20). This is what Jesus meant when he said churches possesses the authority to bind and loose on earth what's bound and loosed in heaven (16:18; 18:17–18). He didn't mean they could make people Christians or make the Gospel what it is, no more than the embassy could make me an American or make American laws. Rather, Jesus meant they could make official pronouncements or judgments concerning the what and the who of the Gospel. What is a right confession? Who is a true confessor?

In our text today, we see Jesus turn the minds of His disciples to His work. Peter declared His Person, now Jesus declares His work. We also see Peter & the disciples have a lot more to learn about their King! He's a suffering King! We've got to get Jesus' Person & work right according to the Bible & faithfully preach it all! (He Gets Us?)

### **1. Jesus Declares His Suffering, Death, & Resurrection**

**Matthew 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.

**a. Jesus must suffer greatly at the hands of those who should have led the people to worship Him: He must go** to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes (**Jesus is God! He knows!**)

They were the Jewish leaders! They accused him of the vilest sin! They lied about Him! They got Him killed!

**b. Jesus began to show His disciples that He must suffer and rise from the dead:** Jesus came as a teacher and a preacher, and we see Him here teaching and showing His disciples the truth. But it took them a long time to finally get it (Jesus' discussion with two of His followers on the road to Emmaus): **Luke 24:21-27:** "But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." <sup>25</sup> **And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.**

**Beginning with Moses: Genesis 3:15:** I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

**Genesis 49:10:** The scepter shall not depart from Judah

**John 3:14-15:** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

**In Exodus: 1 Corinthians 5:7:** Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

**The Prophets: Isaiah 52:14:** As many were astonished at you - his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind

**Isaiah 53:4, 10-12:** Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted . . . <sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper

in his hand. <sup>11</sup> Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

**Ryan McGraw: Moses:** Genesis: Christ is the Seed of the woman, who crushes the serpent's head

Exodus: Christ is Redeemer

Leviticus: Christ is High Priest, who makes atonement for sins

**The Prophets:** Isaiah: Christ is the Branch of David and the suffering Servant, defending God's holiness

Zephaniah: Christ rejoices over His people with singing

Haggai: Christ is the true and greater temple

**Christ's sufferings were ordained by God: Acts 4:27-28:** for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup> to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

(**Elisabeth Elliot:** Suffering is never for nothing; Not for Jesus & not for you!)

**c. There is a centrality to the cross in the Christian life:** This is one reason Jesus commanded silence back in verse 20: the disciples didn't fully get the whole message right of who Jesus is & what He came to do – to suffer!

- **Galatians 3:13:** Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us - for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"

- **Galatians 6:14:** But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ

- **1 Corinthians 1:22-24:** For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

- **1 Corinthians 2:2:** For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

- **D. A. Carson:** The cross, without ever being disowned, is constantly in danger of being dismissed from the central place it must enjoy, by relatively peripheral insights that take on far too much weight . . . What [Paul] means is that all he does is tied to the cross. He cannot talk long about Christian joy, or Christian ethics, or Christian fellowship, or the Christian doctrine of God, or anything else, without finally tying it to the cross. Paul is gospel-centered; he is cross-centered.

- **Horatius Bonar:** The secret of a believer's holy walk is his continual [return] to the blood of the Surety, and his daily [communion] with a crucified and risen Lord. All divine life, and all precious fruits of it, pardon, peace, and holiness, spring from the cross. All [imagined] sanctification which does not arise wholly from the blood of the cross is nothing better than Pharisaism. If we would be holy, we must get to the cross, and dwell there; else, notwithstanding all our labor, diligence, fasting, praying, and good works, we shall be yet void of real sanctification, destitute of those humble, gracious tempers which accompany a clear view of the cross.

- **Dane Ortlund:** There are two ways to live the Christian life. You can live it either for the heart of Christ or from the heart of Christ. You can live for the smile of God or from it. For a new identity as a son or daughter of God or from it. For your union with Christ or from it. The battle of the Christian life is to bring your own heart into alignment with Christ's, that is, getting up each morning and replacing your natural orphan mind-set with a mind-set of full and free adoption into the family of God through the work of Christ your older brother, who loved you and gave himself for you out of the overflowing fullness of his gracious heart.

**d. and on the third day be raised:** Jesus rose up from the dead! **GOSPEL!**

## **2. Peter Rebukes The Christ, The Son Of The Living God**

**Matthew 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."

**a. Does this seem like a logical rebuke?** Jesus has just told His disciples that He is going to build His church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it! Peter just confessed that Jesus is the Christ! He's going to deliver them!

**b. But this is an unbelievably insane rebuke:** You should never rebuke God! You don't tell God what He should and shouldn't do! It's always insane to think and act like Jesus is wrong about anything. It's always insane to disobey Jesus. It's always insane to rebuke Jesus! Peter wanted glory without suffering – He wanted the crown without the cross. **Pastor:** “Never, Lord!” should never come out of your mouth in the sense Peter says it.

**D. A. Carson:** He confesses that Jesus is the Messiah and then speaks in a way that implies he knows more of God's will than the Messiah himself!

**c. Are you in the habit of rebuking God?** Don't do it like this LORD! Let me tell you what my life should be like! **J. M. Boice:** Peter was asking for his own damnation! Are you a complainer? A grumbler? Are you content?

**d. Many pastors today teach a life like Peter wanted for Jesus, no suffering, no trials, no hardship:** God's will for you is that you be rich, wealthy, and healthy and that you won't suffer. And I say to them: “Get behind me Satan.” Some will say since Jesus went to the cross and suffered, we no longer need to suffer. No and yes.

- **Acts 14:22:** through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

- **2 Timothy 3:12:** Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted . . .

- **2 Corinthians 11:24-27:** Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles

- **Philippians 1:29:** For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake

All of Jesus' disciples were killed for their faith in Jesus, except for John who was exiled from his homeland.

**1 Peter 4:12-14:** Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice & be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory & of God rests upon you. (That's the no; But there is a yes! There's no suffering in hell!)

### **3. The Christ, The Son Of The Living God Rebukes Peter**

**Matthew 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."

**a. The tough love of Jesus:** This is love: **“Get behind me Satan!”** You are speaking like Satan! Don't hinder me! **Matthew 4:10:** Then Jesus said to him, "**Be gone, Satan!** For it is written, "" You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.""

**1) There should be some tough love in preaching: S. M. Lockridge:** Instruct the mind; Warm the heart; Move the will to action; and Tan yo' hide!

**George Whitefield:** It is a poor sermon that gives no offense; that neither makes the hearer displeased with himself nor with the preacher.

**2) There should be some tough love in Church Discipline:** Matthew 18; 1 Corinthians 5

**3) There should be some tough love in Parenting: Proverbs 13:24:** Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him. **4) There should be some tough love in any truly loving relationship!**

**b. Why was Peter's rebuke Satanic?:** Remember how Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness? **Matthew 4:** 1) You're hungry so make these stones bread; 2) Throw Yourself off the temple and God will save You: **Psalm 91:11-12:** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone; 3) I will give You all the kingdoms of the world and their glory if You will fall down and worship me!

Peter's rebuke was Satanic because anything that kept Jesus from accomplishing His mission of suffering and dying on that cross was evil and Satanic. It was man-centered and not God-centered!

Peter's rebuke was Satanic because Peter was focusing on man's sinful ways of doing things and not God's perfect way of doing things. **Al Martin:** Satan would love for all of us to think and live as if our main purpose in life was to serve ourselves – to glorify ourselves!

Desiring things to be done your way in your life rather than God's way is Satanic. Not being content in God's way is Satanic. Anger often results from this lack of contentment in God's way – this is Satanic because your anger shows you are not resting in God's way but you want your own way – man's way. **Ephesians 4:26-27:** Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Listening to any voice that does not speak the truth of God is Satanic. “Did God actually say?”

**What do some of those voices say?:** I've been so faithful to God all these years – I think I deserve to go to heaven; I can walk with Jesus all by myself – I don't need His church! I would be better off or happier if I did this thing that is absolutely contrary to God's will (It is always better to obey God and suffer than to sin and enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin!); Or I'm too great of a sinner to be saved; I'm a failure and God could never use me; God could not love me; There's no hope for me – I'm condemned! All of that is Satanic thinking!

**c. Verse 23: You are a hindrance to me:** Jesus, Who just called Peter a rock, now calls him a stumbling block!

**d. Verse 23: For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man:**  
**Colossians 3:1-3:** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**e. Peter eventually understood Jesus & the cross:** Jesus told His disciples over & over about His death & resurrection & they didn't get it! Again, God must reveal His truth to us! **1 Peter 2:21-24:** For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

**Jesus Crushed The Serpent With Passion Fervent As The Suffering Servant!**

Jesus taught His suffering was a must  
Gruesome horror your stomach would disgust  
On that cross He was humbled to the dust  
For on that bloody tree He was made our lust  
That though ungodly we could be made just  
If in Him alone by faith we'd trust  
And all our hopes and dreams on Him are thrust  
He rose up from the dead to live robust  
To save our lives from ending in the dust  
Where all our treasures die and end in rust  
But we will live for glory He discussed

All because our Holy King was killed and crushed!

The greatest Lover of all had to be rejected  
By His own bride He was disrespected  
Through pain and suffering He'd be perfected  
As Messiah this was unexpected  
Upon Himself all sin was collected  
Where on that cross He was erected  
To suffer and die alone dejected  
But rose up from death all unaffected  
The King of kings was resurrected  
To save all those whom God elected  
God's glory He perfectly reflected  
Now we're the church – in love connected  
So we can live as He directed  
And we'll never be neglected  
For by His love we're safe protected!

Peter thought he should correct God's mistake  
Rebuking Christ – on suffering he'd put the brake  
The Messiah's mission he'd remake  
Rebuking God is an insane mistake  
He acted like the evil tempting snake  
The suffering mission Christ would not forsake  
So people could escape the fiery lake  
If forsaking all, this Christ they'd take  
He alone can heal your heart they'd break  
For He alone can fill your life's deep ache  
Since with His love He'll make you quake, shake, and all other loves forsake  
Because His sight compels a double take  
When to His beauty your eyes awake!

Jesus loved Peter with a stern correction  
With this word He crushed Satan's insurrection  
Some love's received with only thick skin protection  
Peter's mind was set on man's direction  
God's plan is always the best selection  
The way up's the way down in God's perfection  
To die is to live – Christ's life reflection  
On that cross He took the greatest rejection  
So you would be loved with greatest affection  
He loved before time when He chose your election  
From the greatest Lover, there's no more rejection  
For He proved His love by death and resurrection!

Christ Jesus Showed Them Many A Thing  
Of How He'd Suffer, Die, And Sting  
From All The Hatred Men Would Bring  
But On The Third Day We Will Sing  
For He Shall Win Our Risen King  
Forever Take Away Death's Sting

Don't Focus On Man's Selfish Fling  
And Be Like Satan's Vile Offspring  
But Turn To God To Christ You'll Cling  
Set Minds On God's Great Everything  
From Him All Joy And Life Does Spring  
Who Died And Rose To Make You Sing!