

Genuine Faith

Matthew 16:13-19

Introduction

- Besides money, what things have been counterfeited, affecting our global economy? List three.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- F_____ has also been counterfeited.
 1. Jesus asked His disciples two questions:
 - a. Who do people say the Son of Man is?
 - 1) Jesus used the term Son of Man from D_____ 7:13, to refer to Himself as the Messiah (see Matt 26:64)
 - 2) People wrongly concluded that Jesus was one of the p_____ who had returned to Israel.
 - b. Who do you say that I am?
 - 1) P_____ speaks up
 - 2) He confesses Jesus to be the C_____ (see Dan 7:14), the S_____ of the L_____ God (reference to Him being God in the flesh – see Jn 5:18; Is 9:6).
 2. Jesus's reply to Peter's confession gives us the truths about genuine faith and what it means for us.

Originates from _____ (17)

- Jesus called Peter blessed because God the Father r_____ this truth to him.
 1. Jesus's identity cannot be known by n_____ conclusions.
 2. Jesus's identity can only be known by s_____ revelation, which is God's word.
- Genuine faith requires the p_____ of God (1 Cor 1:18)
 1. He must un_____ our eyes (2 Cor 4:4)
 2. He must g_____ faith to us (Phil 1:29; Eph 2:8,9)
- Do you have genuine faith? If so you can put your name in the blank as Jesus tells you, *Blessed are you, _____, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.*

Admits you into Jesus's _____ (18)

●“Peter” was the n_____ that Jesus gave Simon due to his confession of faith.

1. The word Peter means r_____
2. Rock was used as a s_____ foundation on which to build a structure.

●Jesus promised to build His c_____ on this solid foundation.

1. What is meant by church in this context?
 - a. Not a b_____
 - b. Not a gathering of l_____ believers (like us)
 - c. But the spiritual church made up of _____ believers everywhere for all time.
2. Every time a person comes to genuine f_____ in Christ, that is Jesus building His church!

●Jesus promises that the gates of Hades (or h_____) will not overpower His church.

1. Hell can p_____ the church (but in doing this the church just f_____)
 - a. Today the number of believers are growing like crazy in places of severe persecution (C_____ and Muslim controlled areas of A_____)
 - b. Although people are not coming to Christ in America like in the above persecuted areas, Jesus is still adding Americans to His church d_____.
2. Hell cannot s_____ from the church (once a believer is admitted into the church, they have ETERNAL life).

Is accompanied by r_____ (19)

●Jesus promises to give the k_____ of the kingdom of heaven (the spiritual church) to Peter.

1. He did not receive the keys until _____ Jesus finished His ministry on earth (after rising from the dead).
2. He did not entrust the keys to only Peter but to _____ who have genuine faith (see Matt 18:18)

- The keys have either a b_____ effect or a l_____ effect.
 1. Translations vary on this verse, but the Greek copies do not. The Greek text reads, *whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will have been bound in heaven.*
 - a. Which action occurs first according to the above translation, the action on earth or the action in heaven?
 - b. This text shows that God u_____ us to accomplish His work of bringing people to Christ.
 2. The keys = the g_____ message.
 - a. When someone rejects the gospel message, it has a b_____ effect (bad news – under sin’s penalty).
 - b. When someone accepts the gospel message, it has a l_____ effect (good news – freed from sin’s penalty and power).
- What unbelievers do you have a connection with?
 1. Pray daily for at least one of them.
 2. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel with them.
 3. Grab the opportunities and leave the results to God.