

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

"Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."

## Matthew 16:15 Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?"

# Matthew 16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.

Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

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



#### Background

The three terms Kingdom of Heaven, God's Kingdom, and the Kingdom of God in the Bible are all referring to the same thing: it is where God is and where He fully reigns.

The Kingdom of God was partially inaugurated into human history through the person of Jesus Christ and it remains here through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

For who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house.

The Kingdom of God was partially inaugurated into human history through the person of Jesus Christ and it remains here through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God should be understood as the ultimate reality wherein God exercises His omniscience, omnipresence, and omnipotence to accomplish His perfect plans.

The partial fulfillment of the Kingdom of God on earth means that as His faithful children, we are partners and ambassadors tasked with ushering in His will on earth as it is in Heaven.

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#### Future Perfect Passive

The future perfect passive tense is used to communicate an action that was already completed in the past and yet it will take place in the future.

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The Church's central mission is to proclaim and to usher in the reality of the presence, power, and message of the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Church was created for the purpose of displaying in every evil age the life, fellowship, and power of the reality of the Kingdom of God on earth as an anticipatory witness to the full establishment of the Kingdom of God when the Lord Jesus returns.

#### Ushering Through

- Obedience to the Master
- Radical Life Change
- Limitless, CompassionateLove for One Another
- Justice and Mercy
- Diverse Fellowship
- Genuine Humility
- Supernatural Forgiveness

The Church's central mission is to proclaim and to usher in the reality of the presence, power, and message of the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Church has been given the keys to the Kingdom of God so that we can declare the terms under which God forgives sin and allows entrance to all into His Kingdom.

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Since the Kingdom of God is already partially on earth, God's will for our lives and the good works that we are predestined to do will become our reality so long as we love the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength.

#### Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's masterpiece.

He has created us anew in Christ

Jesus, so we can do the good

works he planned for us long ago.

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The good works we have the privilege of ushering in on earth (because they have already been declared in Heaven) will always be able to pass a thorough evaluation and testing for legitimacy.

#### Testing the Works

- Initiated by God
- Scripturally Supported by the Entirety of the Bible
- Faithful and Moral
- Supported by Wise Counsel
- A Conviction in Many People's Hearts

#### Testing the Works

- Holy Spirit Empowered –
   Accompanied by
   Supernatural Activity
- Tangibly Reflects God's Heart, Mind, and Kingdom
- Unarguably Brings True
   Honor, Glory, and Praise
   to the King of Kings

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