

“_____ MAS without Christ: Is Christ in Our Church?”

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – December 22, 2013

[Matt 16:13-18](#)

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Christ says that His Church is...

I. FOUNDED ON THE TRUTH OF WHO HE IS

v. 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- The Christ - points out his divinity, shows his office or position of authority.
- The Son - designates his person: his humanity.
- Of the living God - the One, true living God, Our Savior & Redeemer

[Matt 1:20-23](#) (the angel said)

20 "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

Christ says that His Church is...

2. ESTABLISHED BY SPIRITUAL MEANS THROUGH FAITH

v. 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven."

[Gal 2:20](#)

20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Christ says that His Church is...

3. INVINCIBLE

v. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

[Matt 7:25](#)

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

CONCLUSION:

[Col 1:21-22, 27-29](#)

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 But now he has reconciled you [His Church] by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— 27 ... God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. 29 To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.