

The Invincible Church of Jesus Christ

Matthew 16:18 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.

Focus of the Message: The Church of Jesus Christ is the only invincible entity on the face of the earth.

- I. **The Church of Jesus Christ cannot be destroyed because it is built upon an I _____ F _____.**
“upon this rock”

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

📖 **Matthew 7:24-29** 24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings [*logos*] of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock [*petra*]: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

A. The Word of Jesus is the Rock upon which the Church is built.

📖 **Ephesians 2:19-21** 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.

- 1. The Apostles and Prophets Laid the Foundation – wrote the Scriptures.** (Prophets wrote the Old Testament; Apostles wrote the New Testament.)
- 2. Jesus Christ is the Cornerstone – the main Stone upon which that foundation is built.** (All of the Bible is about Jesus; He is the central figure upon which everything in the Bible rests.)

B. The Word of Jesus is a foundation that can never be moved.

📖 **2 Timothy 2:18a & 19a** 18a Who concerning the truth have erred... 19a Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure....

📖 **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

🖼️ **Illustration:** – “kill us, torture us, condemn us, grind us to dust; your injustice is the proof that we are innocent. ...The oftener we are mown down by you, the more in number we grow; the blood of Christians is seed.” (Tertullian, early church leader)

- II. **The Church of Jesus Christ is cannot be stopped because of its O _____ B _____.** *“I will build”*


Verse 18b “...and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

A. Christ has opened the door for the church to advance.

📖 **Revelation 3:7-8** 7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia [note – a local church] write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that


openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

B. The Church advances through that door to retrieve the souls locked behind the gates of hell.


 **Revelation 22:17** And the Spirit and the bride [the Church] say, Come. And let him that heareth [the individual Christian] say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

III. The Church of Jesus Christ cannot be soiled because of its D_____P_____. "my church"


A. Because it is Christ's Church only He has the right to say how it shall be managed.

 **Ephesians 1:22-23** 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

B. He has established that His Church will remain pure.

 **Ephesians 5:25-27** 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

? Conclusion Question: What happens to a local church when it becomes unfaithful? Will it be destroyed, fail to advance and be sullied with the filth of the world?

 **Revelation 2:4-5** 4 Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Conclusion: The local church is just as invincible as the Universal Body of Christ if we fervently show our love for Christ by remaining faithful to the Word. Let it never be said that Metro Baptist Church has abandoned that faithful fervency. It is up to every one of us to make sure that it never happens.