

Ecclesia vs Church

(Restoring the Mission that a Man-Made Religious System Stole from God's People)

Part 2 2019

JESUS:
"I WILL BUILD MY
~~CHURCH~~" ekklesia

Today we will continue the message series on the

Ecclesia vs Church

*Purpose of this message series is to restore to God's people
the assignment He gave us.....*

*instead of focusing on a perverted and erroneous Christian
concept of what the church is.*

First of all

let's begin with the

Vision/Mission/Values Statements

of the Church of God San Antonio

These statements lead to our message topic.

Vision/Mission/Values of God

- *God's Vision*: “To redeem and restore His Creation back to His Original Plan of having mankind rule, dominate, and subdue the earth”.
- *Christ's Mission*: “To pay the redemption price necessary to fulfill His Father's Vision of redeeming and restoring His Creation back to His original plan of having mankind rule, dominate, and subdue the earth.”
- *Values*: *Love God – Love One Another – Love the World*

Vision/Mission/Values Statements of the COGSA

- *Vision*: *“To prepare a people for servant-leadership with Christ in Tomorrow’s New World”.*
- *Mission*: *“To make disciples who make disciples...in order to help change lives through the Power of God’s Applied Word to heal a broken-hurting world”.*
- *Values*: *“To represent the government of God on earth in all areas of life by demonstrating behaviors in the following areas”: –*
 - *Love God (Worship)*
 - *Love One Another (Fellowship/Ministry)*
 - *Love the World (Evangelism)*

Mission Statement

(Internal & External Perspectives)

- *Internal Perspective* (Those who are part of COGSA)
 - *“To make disciples who make disciples... in order to help change lives through the Power of God’s Applied Word to heal a broken-hurting world.”*
- *External Perspective* (Those in the public)
 - *“To help change lives through the Power of God’s Applied Word ... by making disciples who make disciples to heal a broken-hurting world”.*

Five Biblical Purposes Assigned To Believers/Disciples

- *Fellowship* – *Bring them into the Body of Christ.*
- *Discipleship* – *Build them up to maturity.*
- *Ministry* – *Train them for serving one another.*
- *Evangelism* – *Send them out for sharing God's Truth.*
- *Worship* – *All for the glory of God, to magnify His name, and to serve His Vision for mankind.*

*All these apply to
Disciples/Learners/Believers*

Our Mission Field Statement

● *Anyone being called by God who is not yet under the influence of Jesus the Messiah as well as those who choose to be drawn further into a closer-growing relationship with God through a deeper and fuller level of –*

- *Knowledge*
- *Understanding*
- *Application*

of God's Word, including long-lost-biblical-truths that are rarely taught in most churches that when applied will lead to true success in this life and everlasting life in the future.

*All that we do, not only as individual
Believers/Disciples/Learners, but also corporately as a body of
God's people, must fall in line with these...*

*Mission/Vision/Values/Mission Field
and
The Five Biblical Purposes*

*This is the framework/template that will be used to guide us in
all we do as Disciple/Believers in the COGSA.*

*God said that He would build something that would serve as His
Divine Instrument to Disciple Nations and to
to carry out these Vision/Mission/Values Statements
when He said.....*

Matt 16:18

....I will build My church,....

*But a man-made religious system perverted the meaning of this
verse and caused God's people to take their eyes off of their
mission....their assignment....their purpose for being.*

Matt 16/13-19

Matt 16:13-19 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."



Matt 16/13-19

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.



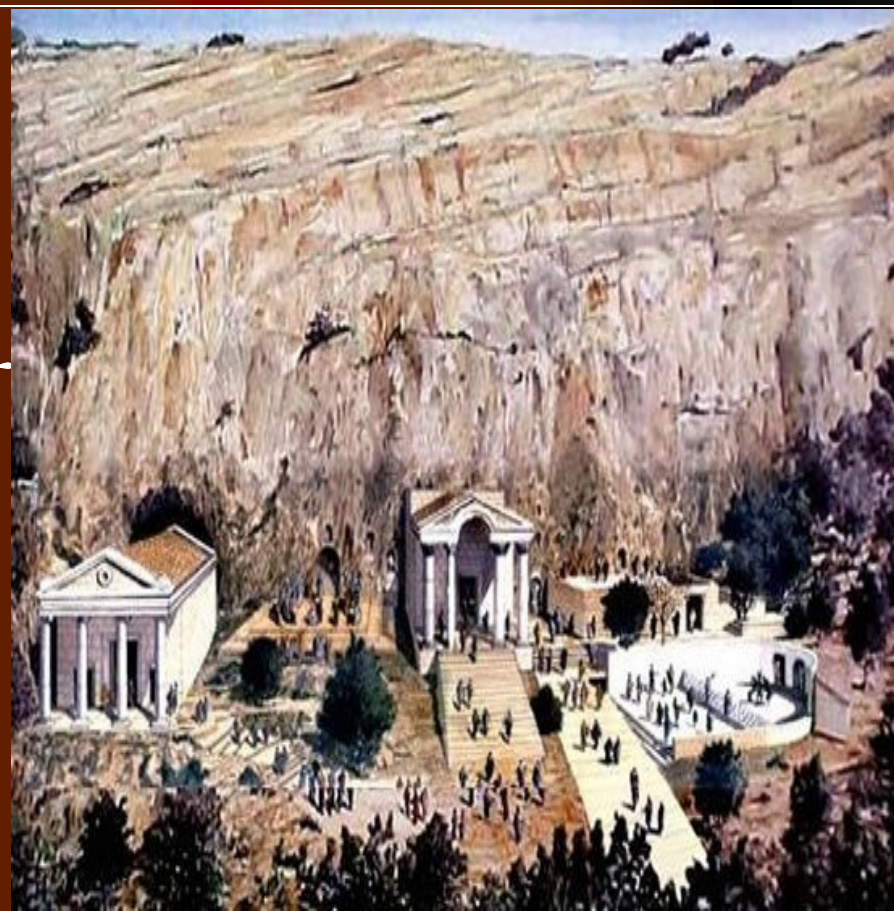
Matt 16/13-19

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter (petros-stone), and on this rock (petra-boulder) I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.



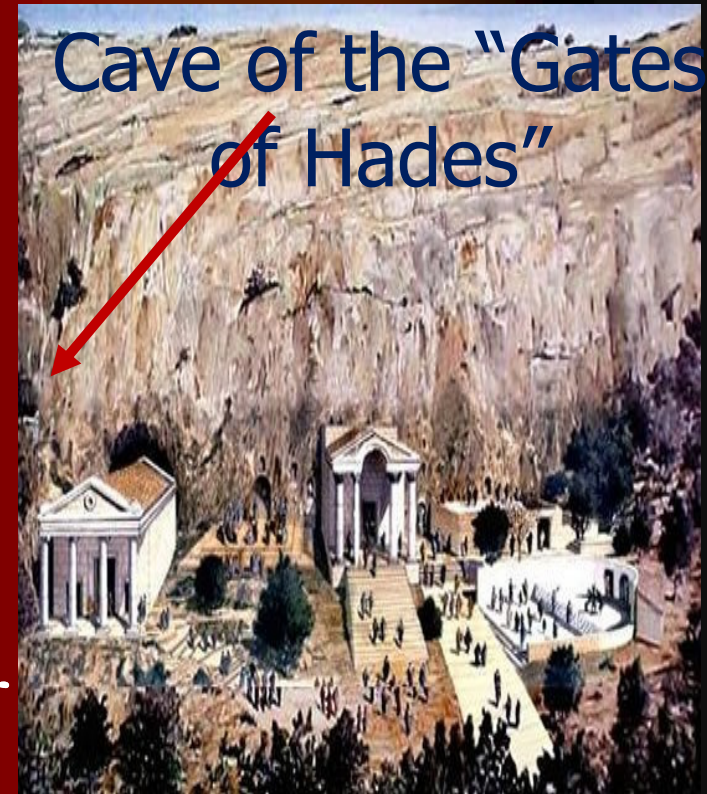
Matt 16/13-19

19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind (lock) on earth will be bound (locked) in heaven, and whatever you loose (unlock) on earth will be loosed (unlocked) in heaven."



What Assignment Were They Given?

- *Matt 28:18-20* *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.*
- *Using the backdrop* *of this extremely pagan-spiritually-dark place, when Jesus said "I will build My church", He was giving His people all the authority they needed to "go" and "engage" the powers of spiritual darkness.*

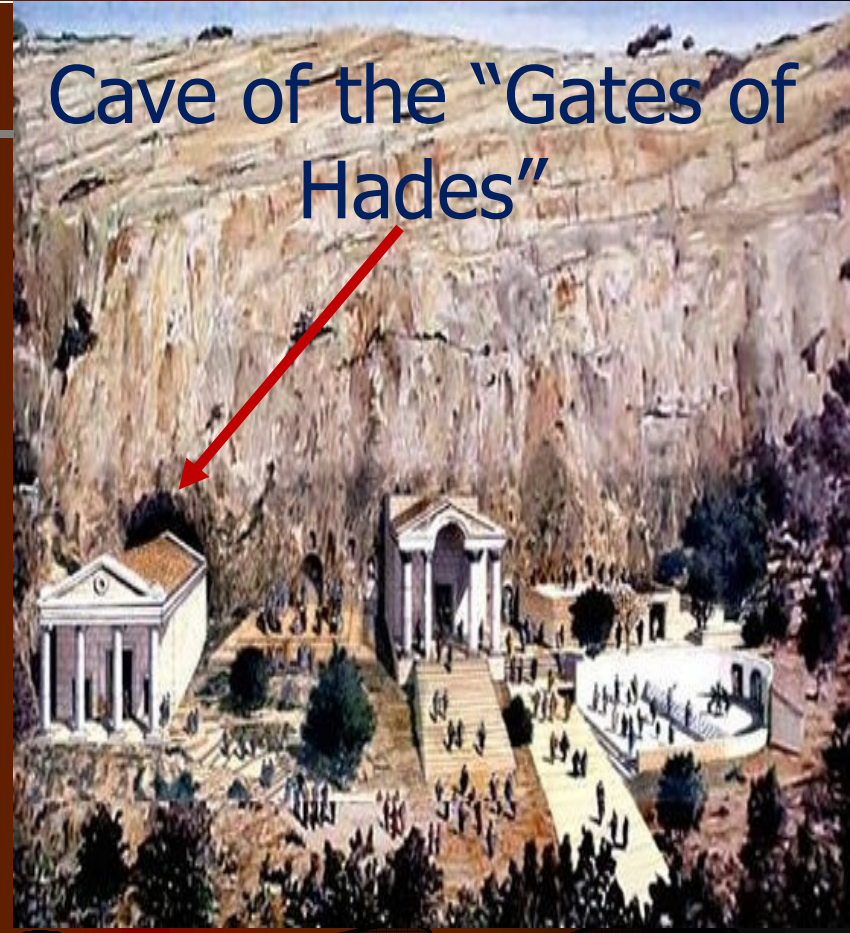


This is the Assignment

18 ... I will build My church,...

- 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Cave of the "Gates of Hades"



God's Instrument to Disciple Nations Has Been Corrupted

- *God never commissioned Believers* to sit within the walls of “church buildings” and focus on using their time, talents, and treasure on “building” buildings for worship.
- *Would Jesus have allowed Himself* to be scourged, hung on a stake to die, and resurrect in order for us to build church buildings?
- *When Jesus said, “I will build My church”*, did he mean go out and build buildings with pulpits, pews, music, bands, steeples, etc?

Where Did We Get this Erroneous Concept of Church?

- *We got it from the Roman Catholic Church and it was all about “power and control” over the people.*
- *Matt 16:18 ... I will build My church,....*
 - *English word “church” = from Greek word “κuriakon” which means “the Lord’s House”...this is what “cathedrals-church buildings” were known as.*
 - *When Jesus made the statement, “I will build My church”...the Greek word “κuriakon” did not even exist...it did not exist until 430 years after Jesus made the statement.*

The word “church” is not only a “mistranslation” of the Greek word from which we get the word “church”....it is a deliberate “substitution” for the correct Greek word.

The Greek word is “ecclesia” = assembly/congregation

The Greek word “ecclesia” was substituted with the Greek word “kuriakon”.

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- *The Roman Emperor, Constantine, was said to become a Christian and he legalized Christianity and began building “cathedrals”....it was all about “power and control” of the people...he brought most of his pagan beliefs into Christianity.*
- *This emperor and emperors that followed became the leaders of the Papacy and the Roman Catholic Church.*
- *The Roman Church was extremely corrupt and did not want the “common people” to read or understand the Bible.*

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- *The people would have to rely on the professional clergy to know what the Bible said....since the clergy taught what the Bible does not say, they certainly did not want the “common people” to know what the Bible really said and find out that they were being lied to by the clergy.*
- *Tyndale Translation of the Bible from original Greek to English: In 1525 William Tyndale translates the NT from Greek to English for all common people to read.*

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- *Tyndale rightly translates the Greek word “ekklesia”, from which we get the word “church” and is found in most Bibles...he properly translated the Greek word “ekklesia as congregation or assembly” as opposed to the word “church”.*
- *This translation threatened the power of the papacy and the Roman Catholic Church...they did not want the people to read and understand the Bible....they would lose control of the people and all the money that they brought to the church.*

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- *Tyndale was accused of “heresy” and in 1536 he was strangled, burnt at the stake, gun powder poured all over his dead body and blown up to pieces....all this was done by the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church.*
- *King Henry VIII, King of England, who was against what Tyndale was doing, separated from the Roman Church and started his own... Church of English... Anglican Church... because the Roman Church would not approve of his divorce and remarriage.*

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- A few months later, after the murder of Tyndale, he authorized the Anglican Church to translate the Bible into English and make it available to the common people....it was all about power and control.
- In 1604, King James, authorizes the KJV of the Bible. He assigns 47 translators and issues 15 rules for translation. Within these 15 rules, he dictates that the word “church” not be translated as “congregation or assembly” so that the Anglican Church would maintain power and keep the Church in control.

Brief History of the Greek Word “kuriakon for church”

- *In 1611 the KJV of the Bible in English was finished, and the word “church” was kept....the man-made institution (the church) had met its goal....it kept control and power over the people and the people (the assembly of called out ones) lost sight of their responsibility.....”to disciple nations”....and for the past centuries its work has remained focused on what goes on inside “church buildings”....it has taken on a “consumer” mentality.*
- *The actual Greek word is “ekklesia”....which means “congregation or assembly”.*

For the past “500” years, we have been building the wrong thing...we have been building the “church” instead of the “ekklesia”.

We have been building a “deliberately corrupted substitution”....one that Jesus did not intend when He said, “I will build My church...”

*We Have Not Been Called to Be a Religious People
We've Been Called as God's Instrument to Disciple Nations*

- *“Religious Christianity” can never take the place of our “Kingdom Advancement” assignment. We have not been called to make more “religious people”....we have been called to engage the “powers of darkness” and produce more disciples.*
- *When people step into our “circle of influence....our corner of the world”, they should feel the “culture of heaven”.*
- *Instead, people step into “religiosity”: gossiping, backbiting, lying, cheating, self-righteousness, bickering,....a mess.*

*We Have Not Been Called to Be a Religious People
We've Been Called as God's Instrument to Disciple Nations*

- *“What’s our Mission:* *“To make disciples who make disciples...”*
- *“What’s our Vision:* *“To prepare a people for servant-leadership with Christ in Tomorrow’s New World”.*
- *“What’s our Values Statement:* *“To represent the government of God on this earth in all areas of life.....”*

Next Week

The meaning of “ekklesia”
and
its mission

As we shall see, the word “ekklesia” means a lot more than just “assembly/congregation”....it has a purpose for its existence....a purpose for “gathering/assembling”.