

BINDING AND LOOSING

8/3/19

- * Purpose of sermon -- To make a few brief comments about "Binding and Loosing"
- * Notice -- Some background information
- * First -- I decided to address this subject today because of a Interactive Bible study we had last week (on 7/27/19) -- when we began talking about Matthew 16:13-18, we also talked about Matthew 16:19
- * Second -- I looked at my records and realized that I had given a sermon and had written an article on the subject 20 years ago -- the sermon was given on 6/12/99 and the article was published on 7/30/99

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Matt. 16:13	Christ -- who do people say that I am?
15	Christ -- who do you say that I am?
16	Peter -- "you are the Christ, the Son of the living God"
17	Christ -- God revealed this unto you
18	Christ talked to Peter -- "upon this rock I will build my church"

*Upon what rock is the Church built?

1. On the words that Peter spoke in verse 16 -- "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
2. On Jesus Christ

Matthew 21:42-44
John 5:19-29
1 Corinthians 3:11
1 Corinthians 15:24-28
Ephesians 2:20
Hebrews 3:1-6
1 Peter 2:5-8

* How do people overestimate the role of Peter?

1. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that Peter was the first pope
2. Following 1979, the Worldwide Church of God taught that Peter was the "chief apostle" -- before 1979, the Worldwide Church of God taught that James was the "chief apostle" -- The changed teaching imitated the Roman Catholic model of the "primacy of Peter" doctrine
3. Some Church of God groups today have one ruler who uses "binding and loosing" to assert dominion and authority -- contrary to Matthew 20:25-28
4. Other Church of God groups today have a group of rulers who use "binding and loosing" to assert dominion and authority -- contrary to Matthew 20:25-28

Matthew 16:19 To Peter -- "And I will give unto you the keys
 of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever
 you shall bind on earth shall be bound in
 heaven: and whatsoever you shall loose on
 earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 18:18 To the disciples -- "Verily I say unto you,
Whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and
whatsoever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

John 20:23 To the disciples -- "Whosoever sins you remit, they
 are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins
 you retain, they are retained."

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* MATTHEW 16:19

Matt. 16:19 Williams translation: "....whatever you forbid
 on earth must be what is already forbid-den
 in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth
 must be what is already permitted in
 heaven."

 Amplified version: "....whatever you bind --
 that is, declare to be improper and unlawful
 -- on earth must be already bound in heaven;
 and whatever you loose on earth -- declare
 lawful -- must be what is already loosed
 in heaven."

* Which of the 3 approaches is correct?

1. When a man or a group of men makes a proclamation on earth, God
 is required to bind or loose that proclamation in heaven--no
 matter what it is
 Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken
and therefore God is required to bind that decision and proclamation
in heaven?
 2. When a man or a group of men makes a proclamation on earth, God
 has already bound or loosed that proclamation in heaven--no
 matter what it is
 Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken
and therefore it is certain that God had automatically bound that
decision and proclamation in heaven?
 3. When a man or a group of men makes a proclamation, it is bound
 or loosed on earth only if it has already been bound or
 loosed in heaven
 Do you analyze the decision to see if it reflects our Father
 in heaven? Do you see if the decision is Biblical?
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* Matthew 16:19, Matthew 18:18 and John 20:23 do NOT promote mindless acceptance of decisions

* When decisions are based upon the laws, principles & approach of God in heaven (Biblical truth), God backs those decisions

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* MATTHEW 18:18

Matt. 18:1-4 humble -- become as little children
 5-10 not offend one of the little ones -- millstone
 11-14 seeking to save lost sheep
 15-17 trespass against you -- 3 steps
 18 "bind" & "loose"

1. Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken and therefore God is required to bind that decision and proclamation in heaven?

2. Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken and therefore it is certain that God had automatically bound that decision and proclamation in heaven?

3. Do you analyze the decision to see if it reflects our Father in heaven? Do you see if the decision is Biblical?

Matt. 18:19-20 if 2 of you shall agree on earth about anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them by the Father in heaven
 "anything"?

* Matt. 7:21 -- doing the will of the Father

* John 5:30 -- seeking the will of the Father

* John 9:31 -- worshipper of God and doing His will

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* JOHN 20:23

John 20:19-20 Jesus appeared to the disciples -- to comfort
 21 Jesus discussed sending them to help people
 22 Jesus discussed them receiving the Holy Spirit
 23 "remit" sins -- "retain" sins

1. Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken and therefore God is required to bind that decision and proclamation in heaven?

2. Do you automatically accept a decision -- because it was spoken and therefore it is certain that God had automatically bound that decision and proclamation in heaven?

3. Do you analyze the decision to see if it reflects our Father in heaven? Do you see if the decision is Biblical?

- * Can people be a Savior to forgive sins?
- * Can people be a door to baptism? -- People are involved in baptisms -- People may teach and guide -- But people are NOT to be the door to baptism -- (Matthew 23:13 & John 10:1-18)
- * Does God support incorrect baptisms?
- * People are sometimes involved in the "disfellowship" of people -- (Notice 1 Corinthians 5:1-13) -- The congregation was involved in this public situation
- * Does God support incorrect disfellowships?
- * When decisions are based upon the laws, principles and approach of God in heaven, God backs them
- * When decisions are based upon the Bible, God backs them

* Some scriptures to consider

Matt. 20:25-28	rulers exercise dominion and authority -- it shall not be so among the Church of God
Rom. 14:12	every one shall give account of himself to God
1 Cor. 3:6-17	laborers shall give account to God for how they influence other saints
1 Cor. 11:1	follow people -- as they follow Christ
2 Cor. 1:24	no person has dominion over your faith
2 Cor. 5:10	we must all appear -- judgment seat of Christ
1 Thes. 5:21	prove all things -- hold fast to the good