



God's

BLUEPRINT

For HIS Church

MATTHEW 16:13-19

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INTRODUCTION

AT THE RISK OF BEING REDUNDANT, ALLOW ME IF YOU WILL, TO PREFACE THIS MESSAGE BY REMINDING YOU OF THE SIMPLE TRUTH, THAT THE CHURCH IS GOD'S IDEA.

AS SIMPLE AS THAT MAY SOUND, AND AS OFTEN AS WE'VE ALL HEARD IT, IT IS TO THE BENEFIT OF THE BELIEVER TO KNOW BOTH WHO WE ARE AND WHOSE WE ARE...

DAVID DECLARES THAT WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, AND THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE. AND THERE ARE SCORES OF OTHER NAMES WHICH APTLY DESCRIBE OUR IDENTITY.

WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND IN OTHER DESCRIPTIONS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST.

BUT THE IMAGE THAT I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO FOCUS ON TODAY, IS THAT OF A SPIRITUAL HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH...

THE TEXT SPEAKS OF A CONVERSATION THAT WAS HAD BETWEEN JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES.

AS THEY PERAMBULATED THE COASTS OF CAESAREA PHILIPPI, JESUS PRESENTED TO THEM THE QUESTION, "WHOM DO MEN SAY THAT I AM?"

IN OTHER WORDS, I'VE BEEN ACTIVE IN MINISTRY FOR A FEW YEARS NOW. SO WHAT IS THE WORLD SAYING ABOUT ME? WHO DO THEY THINK I AM?

AND I NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT JESUS WAS NOT SHOWING SIGNS OF INSECURITY BY ASKING THIS QUESTION.

BUT IT WAS MORE FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIS APOSTLES. BECAUSE, IN ORDER FOR PEOPLE TO BELIEVE THROUGH

FAITH, YOU FIRST HAVE TO ADDRESS THEIR FILTER OF UNDERSTANDING.

THEY SAID, WELL, SOME SAY THOU ART JOHN THE BAPTIST, WHILE OTHER SAY THAT YOU'RE ELIJAH, OR JEREMIAH, OR ONE OF THE OTHER PROPHETS.

AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE REALITY THAT WE HAVE TO FACE IN MINISTRY, IS THE FACT THAT EVEN IN THE *PRESENCE* OF JESUS, THERE WILL *STILL* BE SOME WHO FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THE POWER AND THE PERSONHOOD OF JESUS.

IN OTHER WORDS, THEY HAD JESUS WALKING AROUND IN THE FLESH. BUT THERE WERE STILL SOME WHO DEMOTED HIM TO JUST ANOTHER PROPHET.

SO IT SHOULDN'T COME AS A VERY BIG SHOCK TO US TODAY, THAT THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS.

WE HAVE SOME FOLKS WITH EDUCATION, BUT NO REVELATION. THEY HAVE DEGREES, BUT NO DOCTRINE. AND THE ONLY WAY TO ENLIGHTEN PEOPLE AND BRING THEM INTO TRUTH, HINGES UPON WHAT WE SAY ABOUT THE SAVIOR...

JESUS SAID, OK, I'VE HEARD THE REPORT OF THE CITY. NOW GIVE ME THE REPORT OF THE SAINTS. WHOM DO YOU SAY, THAT I THE SON OF MAN AM?

THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE WALKED WITH ME. THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SEEN THE MIRACLES FIRST HAND. I CAN DEAL WITH THE MISPERCEPTION OF THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW ME. BUT FOR YOU WHO BEEN AROUND ALL THIS TIME, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ME?

FOR FAR TOO LONG, MANY OF US HAVE BEEN MUTE IN OUR DUTIES TO TELL PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS.

PARTIALLY BECAUSE, WE DON'T HAVE A REAL SENSE OF OBLIGATION.

WE LET THE GOVERNMENT TELL US WHO JESUS IS.

WE LET SCHOLARS AND LIBERAL PROFESSORS CREATE OUR RUBRIC FOR RELIGION.

BUT JESUS SAYS, I DON'T NEED TO HEAR FROM THE CITY. I NEED TO HEAR FROM THE SAINTS!

- **I DON'T NEED TO HEAR FROM THE DEMOCRATS, I NEED TO HEAR FROM THE DISCIPLES;**
- **I DON'T NEED TO HEAR FROM THE REPUBLICANS, I NEED TO HEAR FROM THE REDEEMED;**
- **I DON'T NEED TO HEAR FROM THE CONSERVATIVES, I NEED TO HEAR FROM THE CHRISTIANS.**
- **AND WE DON'T NEED TO GO TO NO TEA PARTY, WE NEED TO HAVE A TESTIMONY SERVICE!**

AND OF ALL THE DISCIPLES THAT COULD HAVE SPOKE UP, SIMON IS THE ONE WHO HAD THE COURAGE TO OPEN HIS MOUTH.

WE KNOW SIMON CAN BE IMPETUOUS AT TIMES.

WE KNOW THAT SIMON WAS USUALLY THE ONE WHO HAD A HABIT OF PUTTING HIS FOOT IN HIS MOUTH.

WE KNOW HOW ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES HE WAS WHEN JESUS FOUND HIM BY THE SEASIDE.

BUT REGARDLESS OF WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT ABOUT HIM, THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT SIMON THAT WOULDN'T LET HIM HUSH.

I CAN IMAGINE HOW THAT CONVERSATION WENT, ESPECIALLY AFTER SIMON HAD A CHANCE TO THINK IT OVER.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE MAN THAT FOUND ME IN A FISHING BOAT.

- **WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE MAN WHO FILLED MY NET WITH FISH;**
- **WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE MAN WHO STOPPED BY AND HEALED MY MOTHER IN LAW;**
- **WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE MAN WHO CALLED ME TO PREACH EVEN THOUGH I WASN'T QUALIFIED.**

WHEN GOD HAS BEEN THAT GOOD TO YOU, IT OUGHT NOT TAKE TOO MUCH TO GET YOU TO OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

HE SAID, “THOU ART THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD.”

AND WHEN HE SPOKE THOSE WORDS, IT WAS AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WOULD CHANGE THE COURSE OF ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

JESUS SAID, “BLESSED ART THOU SIMON BAR JONAH, FOR FLESH AND BLOOD DIDN’T REVEAL THAT TO YOU. BUT RATHER IT WAS MY FATHER, WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.”

IN OTHER WORDS, IT WASN'T BECAUSE I'VE BEEN GOOD TO YOU ALL THIS TIME, BECAUSE, IF THE TRUTH BE TOLD, THERE'RE A WHOLE BUNCH OF FOLK TO WHOM THE LORD BEEN GOOD, BUT THEY STILL DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS.

HE KEEPS THEIR LIGHTS ON, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIM.

- **HE KEEPS GAS IN THEIR CAR, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIM.**
- **HE PUTS CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS AND SHOES ON THEIR FEET, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIM;**
- **HE SHELTERS THEM IN THE TIME OF A STORM, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIM.**
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- **THEY APPRECIATE THE SUBSTANCE, BUT THEY MISSED OUT ON THE SOURCE.**

JESUS SAID, “PETER, YOU ARE BLESSED BECAUSE MY FATHER WAS THE ONE WHO GAVE YOU THAT REVELATION. AND FROM NOW ON, YOUR NAME IS PETER, OR PETROS, OR A PIECE OF THE ROCK. AND UPON THIS ROCK, MORE SPECIFICALLY, UPON YOUR PROFESSION OF FAITH IN ME, JESUS SAID I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH. AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.”

CAN I TEACH A LITTLE BIT MORE BEFORE I PREACH?

I KNOW YOU KNOW THIS ALREADY, BUT HUMOR ME FOR A FEW MORE MOMENTS.

WHEN JESUS TALKED ABOUT THE ROCK, HE WASN'T TALKING ABOUT PETER. AND THE REASON WE KNOW THAT IS BECAUSE THE LANGUAGE MAKES IT CLEAR.

LISTEN, HE SAID FROM NOW ON YOUR NAME IS PETROS, AND UPON THIS PETRA, I WILL BUILD MY ECCLESIA. AND THE GATES OF HADES, SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT...

BREAK IT DOWN FOR ME REVEREND:

PETROS MEANS A PIECE OF A ROCK. BUT PETRA WHICH IS FEMININE MEANS A MASS OF A ROCK.

ONE IS A PART. THE OTHER IS A WHOLE.

SO FOR ANYONE WHO DECLARES THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, AT BEST, WE CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A CHIP OFF THE BIG BLOCK.

THAT'S WHY SOME PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WON'T ACCEPT CHRIST. BECAUSE IT MEANS THAT THEY HAVE TO RECOGNIZE SOMEBODY THAT'S GREATER THAN THEMSELVES.

FACT ABOUT IT, THAT'S WHY A WHOLE LOT OF FOLK DON'T FUNCTION WELL IN THE CHURCH, BECAUSE EVEN IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO STILL CAN'T SUBMIT TO THE HEAD.

I MAY AS WELL GO AHEAD AND TELL YOU NOW. THE CHURCH IS NOT BUILT ON ANY INDIVIDUAL.

IF YOU THINK THE CHURCH CAN'T FUNCTION WITHOUT YOU, JUST MESS AROUND AND DIE. THEY ARE GOING TO COME UP IN HERE AND CRY OVER YOUR BODY; BURY YOU IN EVERGREEN; AND THEN COME BACK AND EAT CHICKEN. BUT BEFORE THAT DIRT GETS HARD ON YOUR GRAVE, THE CHURCH WILL BE BACK TO BUSINESS AS USUAL.

NOW, DON'T YOU FOOL YOURSELF, THAT AUXILIARY CAN LIVE WITHOUT YOU;

- **THAT USHER BOARD CAN LIVE WITHOUT;**
- **THAT DEACON MINISTRY CAN SERVE WITH YOU;**
- **THAT MONEY CAN GET COUNTED WITHOUT YOU;**
- **THAT CHOIR CAN SING WITHOUT YOU;**
- **THE MISSIONARIES CAN CARRY ON WITHOUT YOU.**

AND IF FOR SOME REASON THEY CAN'T, IT NEEDS TO SHUT DOWN, BECAUSE IT'S NOT BUILT ON THE RIGHT STUFF ANYWAY

IF YOU NOTICE, I HAVEN'T SAID TOO MUCH ABOUT THE PASTOR. BECAUSE EVEN ON THIS OCCASION, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT REALLY ISN'T ABOUT ME EITHER.

- **IT'S NOT ABOUT THE PASTOR, IT'S ABOUT THE PETRA;**
- **IT'S NOT ABOUT THE LEADER, IT'S ABOUT THE LORD;**
- **IT ISN'T ABOUT THE MAN, IT'S ABOUT THE MASTER;**

AND THE REASON WHY CHURCHES ARE TEARING UP, IS BECAUSE WE'VE EXALTED THE MAN, AND EVICTED THE MASTER.

I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT THE CHURCH IS A SPIRITUAL HOUSE. AND THE ONLY WAY WE SUCCEED IS IF WE FOLLOW THE BLUEPRINT.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT WAS ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD WHAT PETER'S POSITION WAS, BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, WE'VE MADE THE REVEREND TO BE GREATER THAN THE ROCK!

WHAT WE GOT NOWADAYS IS A BUNCH OF WORLDLY MINDED HOLY GHOST HUSTLERS, WHO HAVE TURNED THE PASTORATE INTO A PLATFORM FOR SELF-PROMOTION.

BUT BACK IN THE DAY WHEN I GOT STARTED, YOU HAD TO LOVE THE LORD, BECAUSE THERE WASN'T NOTHING LUCRATIVE ABOUT BEING A LEADER.

IT IS ONLY IN THE LAST 10 YEARS THAT WE FOUND PEOPLE WISHING THEY COULD BE A PASTOR.

ONLY RECENTLY HAVE WE BEGUN TO EXALT THESE ECCLESIASTICAL SUPERSTARS. AND THE BODY OF CHRIST HAS SUFFERED, BECAUSE WE'VE FAILED TO FOLLOW THE BLUEPRINT.

JESUS SAID UPON THIS ROCK, THAT IS THE PROFESSION OF FAITH, THAT'S HOW I'M GOING TO ESTABLISH THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH.

BECAUSE, YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT THE CHURCH IS NOT A BUILDING. SHE'S A BODY.

AND THE REASON WHY WE REFER TO HER IN THE FEMININE, IS BECAUSE EVERY TIME THE DOORS OPEN, WE EXPECT THE OLD GIRL TO GIVE BIRTH.

THE BLUEPRINT SAYS THAT IF I BE LIFTED UP, I'LL DRAW."

YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME UP WITH NOTHING NEW TO KEEP PEOPLE INTERESTED.

THE SAME ROCK THAT ORDAINED THE CHURCH, IS THE EXACT SAME ROCK THAT WILL MAINTAIN THE CHURCH.

AND WITH ALL THESE GIMMICKS THAT WE'VE COME UP WITH TRYING TO BE RELEVANT, IT'S NO WONDER WHY MANY BODIES ARE SUFFERING FROM SPIRITUAL ANEMIA.

- **NAME IT AND CLAIM IT, THAT'S A GIMMICK;**
- **GO GET YOUR BLESSING, THAT'S A GIMMICK;**
- **50 DOLLAR BLESSING, THAT'S A GIMMICK;**
- **BOOGIE DOWN THE AISLE FOR YOUR BREAKTHROUGH, THAT'S A GIMMICK.**

YOU MAY THINK THAT'S CUTE. BUT IT AINT IN THE BLUEPRINT.

I AM HERE TO SERVE IN A MANAGERIAL CAPACITY. AND WHAT CHURCH FOLK NEED TO UNDERSTAND, IS THAT THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MANGER AND THE MASTER.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? IT MEANS THAT SOMEBODY *ELSE* DREW UP THE BLUEPRINT. BUT IT'S THE PROPERTY MANAGER'S JOB TO ENSURE THAT THIS STRUCTURE IS BUILT TO CODE.

THAT MEANS THAT IF SOMETHING IS OUT OF ORDER IN THE CHURCH, SOMEBODY BETWEEN THE PULPIT AND THE PARKING LOT IS NOT FOLLOWING THE BLUEPRINT.

WE GOT MINISTERS TRYING TO PREACH. BUT THEY'RE NOT TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE BLUEPRINT.

- **WE HAVE DEACONS TRYING TO RUN THE CHURCH, BUT THEY ARE NOT TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE BLUEPRINT;**

- WE HAVE LEADERS FIGHTING FOR CONTROL OVER 20 PEOPLE, BUT THEY ARE NOT FOLLOWING THE BLUEPRINT;
- WE HAVE TEACHERS TRYING TO RUN A CLASS

BUT THE PEOPLE AREN'T LEARNING, BECAUSE THE TEACHER WON'T FOLLOW THE BLUEPRINT.

LISTEN, EVERYTHING IN THE CHURCH HAS TO BE BIBLE BASED AND CHRIST CENTERED.

I DON'T CARE WHAT THE MAJORITY SAYS. WHAT DOES THE MASTER SAY?

- I DON'T CARE WHAT THE BOARD SAYS, WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?
- I DON'T CARE WHAT THE DENOMINATION SAYS, WHAT DOES THE DOCTRINE SAY?
- BECAUSE THE ONLY WAY THIS HOUSE CAN STAND, IS IF IT'S BUILT ON THE ROCK OF JESUS CHRIST.

HE TOLD PETER, "I'M GIVING YOU THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM. AND WHATEVER YOU BIND ON EARTH, SHALL BE BOUND IN HEAVEN. AND WHATEVER YOU LOOSE ON EARTH, SHALL BE LOOSED IN HEAVEN.

AND BEFORE WE GET ALL WRAPPED UP IN THAT, LET ME HURRY TO EXPLAIN WHAT JESUS MEANT...

IN ESSENCE, HE WAS SAYING PETER, YOU KNOW WHO I AM. AND IT'S GOING BE UP TO YOU AND THE REST OF THESE GUYS, TO TELL EVERYBODY ELSE WHO I AM. AND THE KEYS THAT I'M GIVING YOU, WHAT IT IS IS THE MEANS THROUGH WHICH THOSE BELIEVERS CAN MAKE IT IN TO HEAVEN...

IN OTHER WORDS, I WANT YOU TO LOOK AT BLUEPRINT, AND SET UP RULES FOR THE SPIRITUAL HOUSE. AND AS LONG AS YOU'RE SAYING WHAT THE BLUEPRINT SAYS, HEAVEN WILL BACK YOU UP.

IF THE BLUEPRINT SAYS MARRIAGE IS BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN, THEN HEAVEN WILL BACK YOU UP WHEN YOU GET READY TO ENFORCE IT.

IF THE BLUEPRINT SAYS THAT YOU GOT TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED, THEN HEAVEN WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH RESOURCES, TO HELP THAT VISION COME TO PASS.

IT WAS NEVER MEANT FOR US TO BE BINDING UP SICKNESS AND LOOSING BLESSINGS ON EVERYBODY. BECAUSE AS LONG AS YOU IN THIS WORLD, JESUS SAID YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE SOME TRIBULATION.

SO REALLY, IN ORDER TO BUILD UP THE BODY, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS BUILD UP THE BELIEVER.

BECAUSE, AS LONG AS WE IN THE BUSINESS OF BUILDING UP SINNERS, A SINNER WHO BECOMES A SAINT WILL TAKE CARE OF THE SANCTUARY.

I BELIEVE WE SPEND TOO MUCH ENERGY TRYING TO MAINTAIN THE BUILDING, NOT UNDERSTANDING THE FACT THAT IF YOU TAKE CARE OF THE BELIEVER, THE BELIEVER IN TURN WILL HELP MAINTAIN THE BUILDING.

THAT'S WHAT MINISTRIES ARE FOR:

- **BUILDING FAMILIES;**
 - **BUILDING PEOPLE;**
 - **BUILDING CHILDREN;**
 - **BUILDING STUDENTS;**
 - **MAKING DISCIPLES;**
 - **LEARNING THE BLUEPRINT.**
- AND AS LONG AS CHRIST IS AT THE CENTER, THE SAINTS WILL BUILD THE SANCTUARY AND BLESS THE CITY.**

JESUS SAID, "UPON THIS ROCK, I'LL BUILD MY CHURCH. AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT."

SO IT MEANS THAT THE DEVIL MAY PURSUE, BUT THANK GOD HE WON'T PREVAIL.

AND AS MUCH AS HE'D LIKE TO TEAR THIS PLACE DOWN, HE CAN TRY ALL HE WANTS, BUT HE WON'T TRIUMPH.

ILLUSTRATION

I'M REMINDED ABOUT THE THREE LITTLE PIGS, AND THE WOLF THAT WAS TRYING TO EAT THEM UP. THOSE PIGS LIVED IN THEIR OWN SEPARATE HOUSES. AND WHEN THE WOLF COMES TO GET THEM, IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYBODY'S SAFE.

THE FIRST PIG, BUILT HIS HOUSE OUT OF STRAW. BUT WHEN THE WOLF CAME BY, HE HUFFED, AND HE PUFFED, AND HE BLEW THAT STRAW HOUSE DOWN...

THE SECOND LITTLE PIG, BUILD A HOUSE MADE OF STICKS. AND THE PIG WHOSE HOUSE BLEW DOWN, RAN NEXT DOOR TO GET SOME SHELTER. BUT WHEN THAT OLD WOLF CAME BY THE STICK HOUSE, HE HUFFED, AND HE PUFFED, AND HE BLEW THAT HOUSE DOWN...

WELL, THE THIRD PIG, BUILT A HOUSE OUT OF BRICKS. AND THE OTHER TWO PIGS, RAN TO HIM FOR SHELTER. AND I HEARD, THAT OLD WOLF SAY, LET ME IN, LET ME IN, OR I'LL HUFF, AND I'LL PUFF, TILL I BLOW YOUR HOUSE IN. YES HE DID.

BUT I HEARD, THE 3 LITTLE PIGS SAY, NOT BY THE HAIR, OF MY CHINNY CHIN CHIN. I DON'T; CARE WHAT YOU SAY. WE AINT LETTING YOU IN. CAN I GET A WITNESS HERE?

HE HUFFED, AND HE PUFFED, BUT HE COULDN'T, BLOW THAT BRICK HOUSE DOWN.

BUT I NEED YOU TO KNOW TONIGHT THAT YOUR ENEMY IS NOT GOING TO GIVE UP THAT EASY.

BECAUSE HE CLIMBED TO THE ROOF TOP AND HE FOUND A WAY TO GET IN.

THE DEVIL IS TRYING TO GET IN THE CHURCH. AND IF THE DOOR DOESN'T WORK, HE'LL CLIMB THROUGH THE ROOF.

IF HE CAN'T USE THE PASTOR:

- **HE'LL GET IN THE DEACONS;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE TRUSTEES;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE USHERS;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE CHOIR;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE MISSIONARIES;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE MEMBERS;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE PULPIT;**
- **HE'LL GET IN THE PEW.**

BUT THEY TELL ME, ABOUT THESE 3 LITTLE PIGS, THEY HAD A SURPRISE FOR THE BIG BAD WOLF.

WHEN HE DROPPED DOWN THAT CHIMNEY, THERE WAS A BIG POT OF BOILING HOT WATER, AND HE FELL IN, AND GOT COOKED TO DEATH.

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU ALL FEEL ABOUT IT, BUT MY HOUSE IS BUILT ON A ROCK.

- **NOT ON WEALTH NOR ON MY WARDROBE;**
- **NOT ON MY HOUSES NOR MY CAR;**
- **NOT ON MAN NOR ON MINISTRY;**
- **NOT ON THE PASTOR, NOR ON THE PEW.**

**“MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS,
THAN JESUS’ BLOOD AND RIGHTEOUSNESS,
I DARE NOT TRUST THE SWEETEST FRAME,
BUT WHOLLY LEAN ON JESUS’ NAME.”**

**ON CHRIST THE SOLID ROCK I STAND,
ALL OTHER GROUND IS SINKING SAND.**

**IT WAS EARLY, ONE FRIDAY MORNING, WHEN THEY LED
HIM, UP CALVARY'S HILLS. HE SAID DESTROY, THIS
EARTHLY TEMPLE, BUT IN 3 DAYS, I'LL RAISE IT UP AGAIN.”**

**THEY HUNG HIM HIGH... THEY STRETCHED HIM WIDE....HE
DIED FOR YOU AND FOR ME;**

THEY BURIED HIM IN A BORROWED TOMB;

THEY PUT A ROCK, IN SIDE OF A ROCK...

**HE STAYED THERE ALL NIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT;...ALL DAY
SATURDAY...ALL NIGHT SATURDAY NIGHT;..**

**BUT EARLY SUNDAY MORNING, HE GOT UP WITH ALL
POWER IN HIS HAND.**

**I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH TODAY, BUT
YOUR ENEMY IS ALREADY DEFEATED.**

**I NEED SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS ABOUT THE BIG BAD
WOLF;**

**I NEED YOU TO TESTIFY ABOUT HOW THE LORD KEPT YOU
SAFE.**

- **THE DEVIL TRIED, BUT HE DIDN'T TRIUMPH;**
- **THE DEVIL PURSUED, BUT HE DIDN'T PREVAIL;**
- **THE DEVIL BLEW AT YOU, BUT HE DIDN'T BREAK YOU;**
- **THE DEVIL DAZZLED YOU, BUT HE DIDN'T DESTROY YOU;**

- THE DEVIL STALLED YOU, BUT HE DIDN'T STOP YOU;
- THE DEVIL ROCKED YOU, BUT HE DIDN'T RUIN YOU.

I HEAD PAUL SAY, "WE ARE TROUBLED, ON EVERY SIDE, YET NOT, IN DISTRESSED; WE ARE PERPLEXED, BUT NOT IN DESPAIR; ⁹PERSECUTED, BUT NOT FORSAKEN; CAST DOWN, BUT NOT DESTROYED;

IS THERE ANYBODY HERE, THAT'S BEEN THROUGH SOME STORMS?

IF THE LORD HAS EVER BROUGHT YOU THROUGH A STORM, RAISE YOUR HAND AND SAY YES...YES...OH YES...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH, BUT IF YOU STICK TO THE BLUEPRINT, GOD WILL MAKE EVERYTHING ALRIGHT.

WON'T HE DO IT?...WON'T HE DO IT?...WON'T HE..WON'T HE...WON'T HE, WON'T HE DO IT?