

A photograph of a paved path leading to a cross in a field at sunset. The path is made of light-colored concrete and is flanked by green grass. In the distance, a large wooden cross stands in a field. The sky is filled with warm, golden light from the setting sun, creating a hazy, atmospheric background. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of a journey or pilgrimage.

From here Jesus is on the road to
Jerusalem

Where He will give His life for us
on the cross

Matt 16:13-21

THE WAY
OF THE CONQUERING
CHRIST

Matthew 16:21-27



JESUS IS THE QUESTION
BEFORE
HE IS THE ANSWER



THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- **What Peter (Rocky) has just done with Jesus here (Matt 16:16) –is point to Him as the Christ – the saviour and deliver of the World. The ministry of the keys is the ministry of the Messiah promised in Isa 61 – opening the door and setting captives of Satan free - a ministry now entrusted to Jesus' Church.**
- The faithful preaching of the pure, unfalsified Gospel of Jesus Christ are the administration of the keys!
- Whoever believes this Gospel will be freed from his or sins and saved. Whoever does not believe will be damned (Mk 16:16).

Now you have got it – that I am the Christ, I have a couple of things to tell you !!!!

- 1. He warns them that they should tell no one He is the Christ.....
(Matt 12:16-21)
- 2. From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He **must go** to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. (Mat 16:21).
- **Jewish expectations of the Christ...**
- **Jesus' expectations - Matt 12:16-21 – Isaiah 42:1-4, Isa 53**

- Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid *it*, Lord! This shall **never** happen to You."
- But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."
- **From Rocky the foundation stone to the stumbling stone..**
- **Even Jesus was tempted to stumble away from the cross...**
- **Peter tries to turn Jesus away from the mission of God.**
- **Who else has tried to do this to Jesus ?**

The Way of Satan!

- **Kingdom without the cross – Luke 4: 5-8**
- **Promises of the kingdom without the cross come from the devil**

But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."

- **Peter – being used by Satan – not possessed**
- **What a warning!!!!!!**
- **In setting my mind** on man's interests as a disciple of Christ...
- **In setting my mind** on man's interests I can easily open myself up to Satan's agenda and become a stumbling block to my brothers and sisters, the mission of the Church and ministry of the keys of Heaven...
- **Setting our minds daily** on God's interests is the way of the Cross (Luke 9:23)
 - **“Obedience is the grave of the will” (Matt 26:39)**

Get back in line!

- Peter –Rocky - is called to follow Jesus –in the way of the cross – not lead!
- Matt 17:1-2 – the Grace of God! Good example of 16:19!!!!
- Jesus Christ empowered by the Spirit will build His church and Satan's gates will not hold humanity enslaved – for the Christ of Heaven has Come to earth! Now the keys of the kingdom of heaven can unlock doors no one else can open and shut doors no one else can shut!
- The way of the conquering Christ is the way of the Cross – it is the way of the victorious Church!
- This victory of Christ and the real hope for the world is what Christmas is about!