

REVEALING Jesus

Hope for a broken world

6 Insights into Jesus' Identity & Authority

Matthew 16:13-20(NKJV)

Pastor Denis Wade

What do people say and think about Jesus?

1. “He was a good teacher.”
2. “He was a great moral example.”
3. “He was a revolutionary.”
4. “He was a spiritual guru.”

Matthew 16:13-20 (NKJV)

1. The Identity of Jesus
- 2. The Revelation of the Father**
3. The Authority of Jesus
- 4. The Foundation of the Church**
5. The Authority of Believers
- 6. The Battle between Light & Darkness**

Where Did This Happen?

The Setting & it's Significance

**“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi...”
(Matthew 16:13a)**

- About 30 miles north of Galilee
- A 3-day journey on foot
- A region of Gentile and pagan influence

Where Did This Happen?

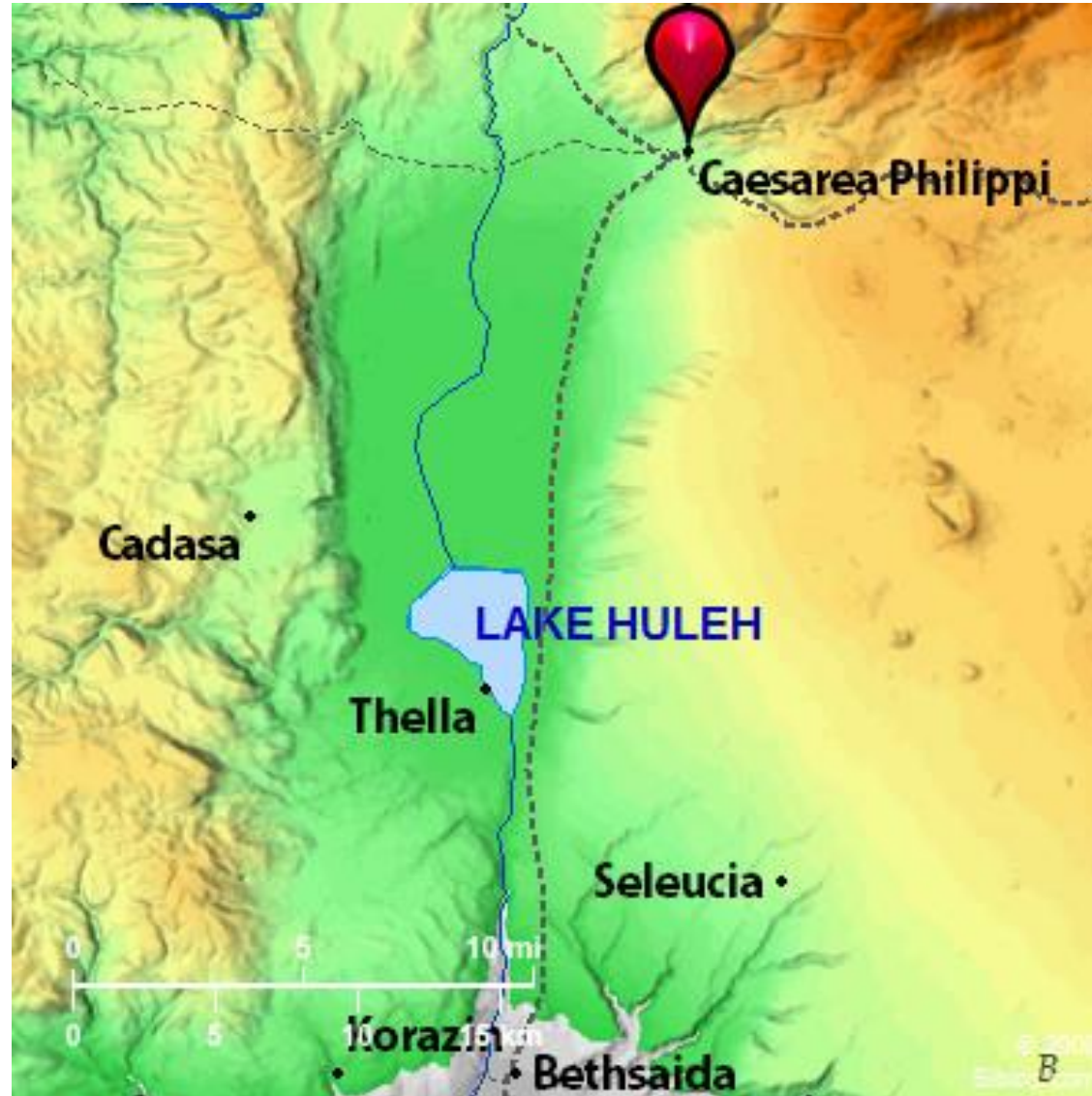
The Setting & it's Significance

**“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi...”
(Matthew 16:13a)**

- Jesus travelled here intentionally
- 2½ year into His ministry
- Preparing His disciples for what was coming next

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Caesarea Philippi was...

- A pagan, Gentile, idol-rich region – for over 1,000 yrs
- Baal, Caesar, multiple false gods
(cf. Judges 3:3, Joshua 13:5)
- A Greek & Roman Centre of Pan worship

Caesarea Philippi was...

- Home to Pan
 - God of Nature (half man/half goat)
 - Fertility
 - Sexual excess
 - Wild music
 - Fear (our word “panic” comes from Pan)
- Built around a massive rock cliff with a cave called “**The Gates of Hades**” — believed to be a portal to the underworld

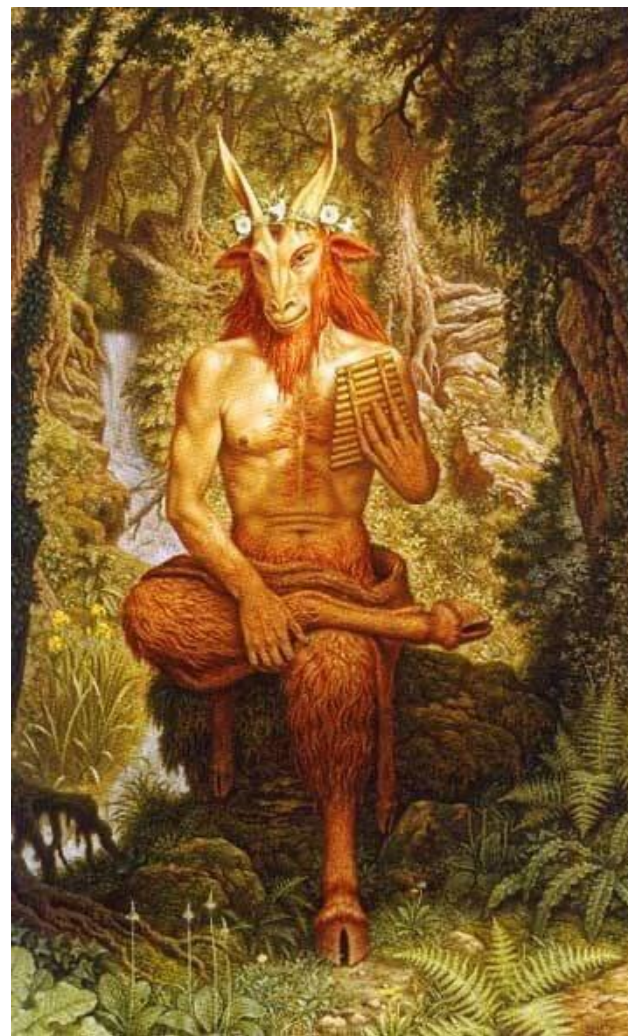
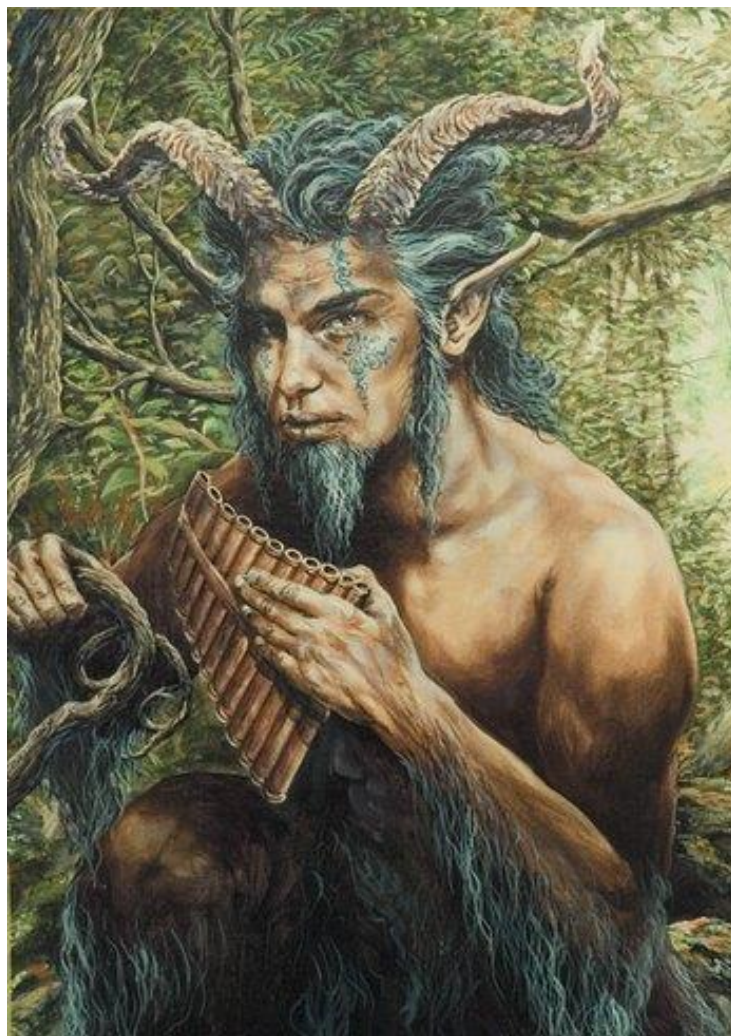
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Why Did Jesus Choose This Location?

- To reveal His identity in the darkest environment
- To comfort idolatry and demonic strongholds directly

Why Did Jesus Choose This Location?

- To show the disciples that His Kingdom advances against darkness
- To make a declaration to both His disciples and the forces of darkness

Matthew 16:13-20(NKJV)

¹³ 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.”

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.”

Matthew 16:13-20(NKJV)

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.

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

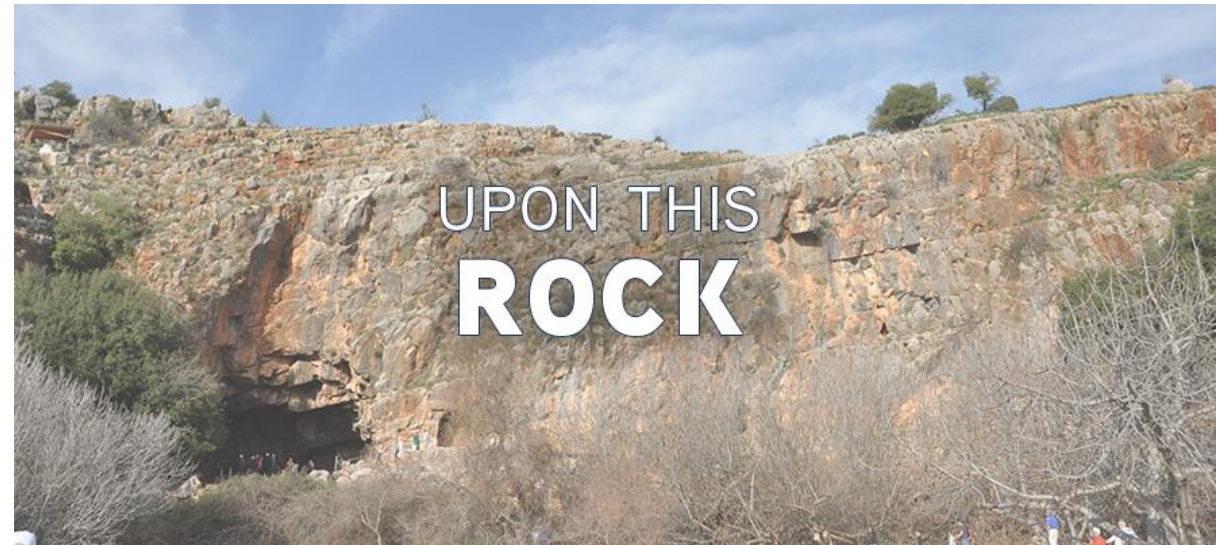
¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven...

Matthew 16:13-20(NKJV)

²⁰ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

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SIX INSIGHTS INTO JESUS' IDENTITY & AUTHORITY

1. Jesus is the Saviour of the World

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (v. 16)

Every believer’s journey begins with revelation, not information.

You cannot know Jesus by intellect alone — the Father must reveal the Son.

2. Jesus is Revealed by the Father

“Flesh and blood has not revealed this... but My Father...”
(v.17)

You can attend church, quote Scripture, and even serve in ministry — and still not truly know Jesus unless the Father opens your eyes.

3. Jesus is the Foundation of the Church

“On this rock I will build My church...” (v.18)

The apostles and prophets form the foundation —
but Christ Himself is the Chief Cornerstone who holds
everything together.

(Ephesians 2:20)

4. Jesus gives the Church it's Victory

“The gates of Hades shall not prevail...” (v.18)

The Church is God's unstoppable force in a dark and broken world.

5. Jesus gives the Church it's Authority

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom...” (v.19)

We do not create authority —

We exercise Christ's authority.

6. Jesus gives the Church it's Orders

“Tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.” (v.20)

Why?

Because God reveals things in the right season for the right purpose.

Final Application

What This Passage Means For Us:

1. Know Jesus truly for yourself
- 2. Reject cultural opinions**
3. Embrace divine revelation
- 4. Build your life on the true Rock – Christ!**
5. Walk in Kingdom authority
- 6. Stand over the powers of darkness**

4 Truths about the Church

- Christ Owns the Church
- **Christ Builds the Church**
- Christ Preserves the Church
- **Christ Empowers the Church**

Conclusion

Jesus asked – “who do YOU say that I am?”

Your answer determines:

1. Your **identity**
2. Your **destiny**
3. Your **calling**
4. Your **eternity**