

Undefeated

Matthew 16:18-19; Ephesians 3:10

1 Peter 2:4-8; Ephesians 2:20

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A. Satan Cannot Prevail (vs. 18b-19):

1. Satan uses a variety of mechanisms [drugs, storms (Ephesians 2:1-2), diseases, plagues, wars, etc.) to create death; his mission is to create complete destruction (John 10:10), and he is persistent (Revelation 12:10; 1 Peter 5:8 – constantly seeking) in his efforts.
2. Death does not reign in the church for the following reasons:
 - a) Who Christ is “The son of the living God”.
 - b) “I also say...” – Christ speaks with authority. His Word does not return void (Isaiah 55:11).
 - c) Christ is building His Church; we are not. He gives us the spiritual gifts to make all this work (1 Corinthians 12:4-8).
 - d) We have the keys. The Holy Spirit is poured into us, and He opens our minds to be able to use the keys.
 - e) When we do the binding and loosing under Christ's authority, heaven provides us with the power and authority.
 - f) If the Lord chooses to heal us in heaven and we pass, those who are saved are immediately in the presence of the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8)
3. The church restrains the evil work of the devil (1 Peter 4:17). The Holy Spirit is the restrainer, therefore, we must do whatever it takes to not quench His work in the church (1 Thessalonians 5:12-12-22). If Christ removes His lampstand from the church, there is no restrainer (2 Thessalonians 2:6-12).
4. It is Christ' church, so He will provide the church a permanent possession of His keys to equip the church to deal with the onslaught of Satan's attacks.
5. Got to have the keys - as discussed – Here is where we are with keys:
 - a) Discussed - The “keys” (16:19) were a symbol of authority to open or close doors (cf. Isa. 22:22). “The authority given to Peter was later given to the other apostles as well (18:18).” [\[1\]](#)
 - b) Discussed - Got to have the keys.
 - c) Discussed - The Word of God (not “a” key, “the key”) is the only defense

against Satan (Hebrews 4:12). It keeps the armor on us (Ephesians 6:14) and it is the “sword of the Spirit.” (Ephesians 6:17).

d) Discussed - It is “the keys” for “the gates”. It is specific keys for specific gates. We must learn what specific scriptural text to use to the specific attacks that Satan advances against us.

e) The key to the “keys” is the presence of the Holy Spirit in each believer’s life (Titus 3:4-8). Growing spiritually allows us to better know how to use the keys (1 John 1:5-7).

6. Christ did not say “open and lock”. He said “bind and loose”; WHY? Christ seems to not be talking about Satan anymore because He is saying “whatever” not whoever.
7. Matthew 18:15-20 teaches us that whatever also means whoever, because when sin is allowed to run rampant in a church with no accountability Christ no longer empowers the church. He takes His lampstand (Revelation 3:12-17).
8. Satan attacks our thoughts so that he can stop us from seeking to renew our minds (2 Corinthians 10:2-6). If he succeeds, we conform to the world and become enemies of God (Romans 2; James 4:1-4; 1 John 2:15-17).
9. Using the keys because of the development of the Holy Spirit in our lives sets us free (John 8:31-32).
10. The Kingdom of God is the sphere of God's rule. When He gives us the keys and when we only use the keys as specified, He chooses to rule through us to the world which is in Satan’s power (1 John 5:19). It is we who are the salt and the light (Matthew 5:13-16).
11. We are protected no matter what Satan does because we got the power (Hebrews 1:14; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 John 4:4) because of how the kingdom of heaven responds to us, not Satan.

B. We are Empowered (Ephesians 3:10; 6:10-12):

1. This verse provides the intent, the purpose of the “administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God” revealed through the preaching of the Gospel.
2. The skillful application of God’s Word in its highest and fullest sense when being applied to real life situations has a number of different ways it can be applied. (James 1:5-9; 3:15-18).
3. The numerous ways of God’s wisdom being exposed takes place through the collection of faithful believers gathered as free citizens (Ephesians 2:19) in a public assembly, called by a herald to worship Christ proclaiming the salvific work of God.

4. Rulers and authority is a reference to the evil forces of Satan who function with power and authority and have the ability and strength to execute their wicked agenda (Ephesians 6:11-12).
5. All the schemes (2 Corinthians 2:11; Ephesians 6:11) of Satan (the gates) meet with the wisdom of God (the Keys – different keys need multifaceted wisdom) that is multifaceted (gates) for all the schemes of the Devil.
6. Because we now have the manifold wisdom of God in the church that Christ builds, leads, and provides His keys that empowers it, we can be strong, wear the armor, and resist everything Satan does (Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-9).

^[1] Hughes, R. B., & Laney, J. C. (2001). [*Tyndale concise Bible commentary*](#) (p. 412). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.