

Storming the Gates of Hell

Ephesians 6:12 – For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens. (CSB)

I. The **battle** always seems **bleak**.

1 John 5:19 – We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. (NASB)

John 14:30 – I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me, (NIV)

II. In **Christ** there is **certainty**.

Romans 1:19-20 – ¹⁹since what can be known about God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, that is, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being understood through what he has made. As a result, people are without excuse. (CSB)

Romans 11:36 – For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen. (CSB)

Matthew 16:18 – **And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church,** and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. (CSB)

III. There is **power** in the **promise**.

Matthew 16:18 – And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, **and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.** (CSB)

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 – ⁵⁴When this corruptible body is clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body is clothed with immortality, then the saying that is written will take place: Death has been swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵Where, death, is your victory? Where, death, is your sting? ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (CSB)

Acts 2:24 – But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. (NIV)

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 – ⁴My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵so that your faith might not be based on human wisdom but on God's power. (CSB)

Romans 8:16 – The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, (CSB)

Thought for the Week:

It is not **faithful followers** of Christ who build the church,
it is Christ who builds the church through **faithful followers**.

Todd Hitchcock - Bethel Baptist Church August 6, 2017 Message Notes
