

# The Power of the Church

## What IS Church?!

- **Ekklesia: Matthew 16:13-19 (NASB)** Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" **14** And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." **15** He \*said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." **17** And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18** "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My **CHURCH**; and **the gates of Hades will not overpower it**. **19** "**I will give you** the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."
- **Ekklesia: a Roman term, not a Hebrew term**
  - a group of Citizens, Called OUT from their homes to gather together, to Set Rule & Government over their area
    - ◆ Citizens, not a mixture
    - ◆ Called OUT together
    - ◆ Sets the Rule, laws & government over an area
- **Participants, Not Spectators!**
  - **Ephesians 4:16 (NASB)** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

## The Earth is in the hands of man!

**Psa 115:16 (NASB)** The heavens are the heavens of the LORD, But the earth He has given to the sons of men.

## The Church is Designed to Give Hope, Save & Preserve the World Through Christ

- **Matthew 5:13-16 (NASB)** "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty *again*? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. **14** "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; **15** nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **16** "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

## God's Powerful Blessings Come Thru The Church!

### Gal 3:7-9 (NASB)

**7** Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.

**8** The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU."

**9** So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

**Amo 3:7 (NASB)** Surely the Lord GOD does nothing Unless He reveals His secret counsel To His servants the prophets.

**Jas 5:16 (AMPC)** ...The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [*dynamic in its working*].