

Whenever it seems the gates of hell will prevail God _____ his Church.

First and Second Great _____.

God has worked through his Church to:

- to save souls
- transform lives
- free slaves
- free addicts
- empower women
- feed the hungry
- heal the sick
- educate the poor
- adopt orphan children
- bring relief in disasters
- advocate for people unjustly imprisoned

“When you get up on Sunday morning, get dressed and get in the car, what do you think you’re going to?”



The Tangible Kingdom

The Story So Far:

- The universe is the intentional act of a loving creator.
- God created humans “in his image” to care for and order the world toward flourishing.
- From the time of Adam and Eve, we all declare independence from God.
- This results in broken relationship with God and each other.
- God promises to bless the nations through Abraham’s descendants. We see a clear relationship between faith and blessing.
- God gives Israel (Abraham’s descendants) the Law which shows God’s love, provides God’s wisdom, and illustrates our need for holiness.
- Israel breaks the Law and is sent into Exile, but God promises a new King that will restore peace and bring justice to Israel.
- That king is Jesus, who comes to set up his Kingdom.

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Scripture: Matthew 16:13-28

Jesus didn’t originally tell his disciples they would have to _____ for him.

Jesus was having a _____, because things were about the change.

Caesarea Philippi

- Was a _____ to Herod the Great.
- Herod named it after _____.
- It was known for being a _____ center and _____ hub.
- It was here they held _____. (gathering)

_____ – A group of people called out to get something done.

“Jesus was calling a body of people out of the comfort of their homes to accomplish something any government, military, or religion couldn’t do.”

The History of Christ’s Church

The power of the Church is the power of the _____. (Mt 16:21-26)

- Jesus rode into Jerusalem to a king’s welcome. (Mt 21:1-11)
- The Jewish religious leaders trumped up charges against him (Mt 26:14-16)
- They mocked the so-called “king of the Jews!” (Mt 27:37)
- When he was crucified, it seemed the gates of hades had overcome Jesus (Mt 27:46-50)
- Three days later his body was _____. (Mt 28:1-10)
- He appeared to _____ people.

He gave instructions to his _____. (Mt 28:18-20)

They were given the power of the _____. (Acts 2:2-4)

For the first 300 years, the church was _____,

- Yet it grew from a handful of people to 30 _____!
- It didn’t grow through military force.
- During the plagues of 160 and 260 AD, while the doctors _____, the Christians _____.

Only _____ and _____ have been able to slow it down.