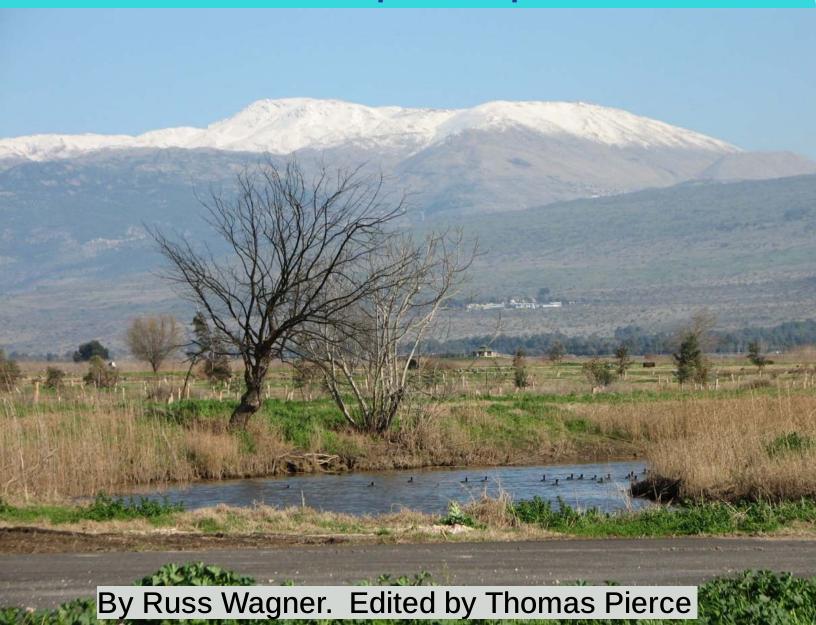
Omega Kingdom Ministry Bootcamp Chapter 1



We embark on this basic training and coaching to help you to begin a Home Congregation in your community. This chapter is entitled, "Time Travel to Mount Hermon."

Imagine if we were able to jump in Marty McFly's DeLorean from the movie Back to the Future. Imagine if we could travel back in time to A.D. 29 and to the region Caesarea Philippi in Palestine specifically to Mt. Hermon.



We are imagining taking Marty's DeLorean and traveling to this time and place so that we can learn why Jesus did what He did in taking his disciples to Mt. Hermon. It is even more important for us to understand what Jesus meant when he said what he said while He and the disciples visited there.

The meaning behind what people do and the meaning of the words that people say can change throughout time.

Quite often a word will completely change its meaning in just one generation. For example, lets look at the word "gay" How would you define that word? In many cases, how we define a word is based on how old we are and what generation we are from. During my dad's generation the word gay meant happy, carefree and fun. They had a gay old time in the 1920s and 30s. In my generation, gay came to mean someone who is homosexual. This was true from about the 1950s up to about 2000 but now it means something altogether different from that. If I were to tell a dumb joke to my grandson and he thought it was not funny, didn't like it, he might say, oh grandpa that joke is gay. Are you're being gay? And by that he means lame, stupid and dumb. Word meanings change over periods of time.



So welcome to Caesarea Philippi. You'll see the arrow indicating where Caesarea Philippi is located in this picture. The passages of Scripture that we are going to read are Matthew 16 and Mark 8. Mostly we'll be in Matthew 16:13-19. Jesus was over by the Mediterranean Sea in the area of Tyre, and he was traveling south or south east to his home country in Galilee. But he and his disciples took a side trip to Caesarea Philippi.

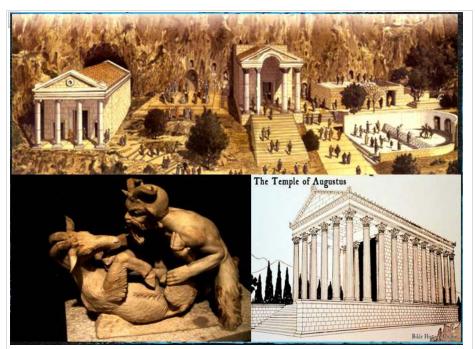
Jesus had his young protégé with him. The disciples that He had recruited and was training. He took them over to Caesarea Philippi, out of the way, quite a distance from Tyre and Sidon as part of the training. Caesarea Philippi is almost straight east from the route that He and his disciples were traveling. About a 30-mile round trip over there and back. I walk quite often two miles a day. My slow pace is 20 minutes per mile and so if you do the math, they walked about five hours one way just to get there.

Why did Jesus lead the disciples there. Its not like He missed a turn on the freeway. This was an intentional move on his part. He was doing something. This was an intentional and strategic setup. This was going to be a teaching moment. He wanted to show the disciples something that was there. They had to be on that location to get the impact of the revelation that he was going to give to them at that time. So, we need to go there and see for ourselves. He went there because archaeologistshave uncovered no less than 12 pagan temples on the top and around the area of Mount Hermon.

If we're going to understand what Jesus said what He meant by what He said at Caesarea Philippi, we need to go back to that culture, into that situation in life and understand what it meant to Jesus, to the disciples and to the people of that time when he said these words. The Bible scholars even have a word for the changes that take place to word meanings over time. "Sitz em Laban". It means situation in life and the translators that are doing their work. This is the practice of looking a time, place and situation in life and trying to understand what the word meant when it was spoken in that time, place and situation. The next step then is to find the best word in our language today to give it definition and description. We are attempting to do this with the words that Jesus spoke at Caesarea Philippi.

There would have been three temples there the day that Jesus and the disciples visited Caesarea Philippi or Mount Hermon. There was a temple of Pan the goat god of sex. We'll talk about him in a moment. There was a temple to Caesar Augustus. He was worshipped as a god. The people of that time would deify their emperor. This was called Emperor worship. A temple would be built in honor of that Emperor. There was also a temple to the god of Hades there. He was the god of the dead or underworld.

To describe these temples that were there in more detail: Pan was the goat god of sex and of the wild and of the field. Pan is depicted by artist as being half man and half goat. His legs are that of a goat his horns are that of a goat but his face and body is that of a man. In The temple to Pan there would be pagan prostitutes. Believe it or not these prostitutes would actually engage in the act of intercourse with goats as a part of their worship service. It was an act of worship to Pan the goat God.



The temple of Caesar Augustus was there next to the temple dedicated to Pan. Caesar Augustus was the Roman Emperor at the time of Christ, he was deified and worshipped as god. In fact, people were required to call Caesar Lord in many instances. They worshipped and deified Caesar Augustus at that temple.

The third temple there was in honor of the god of Hades. There was a gate or hole in the mountain behind the temple of Hades. Hades was the god of the underworld.

Imagine how evil, dark and how corrupt that place was. Imagine Jesus purposefully taking his disciples in training to one of the darkest places on earth. This is what Jesus did.

At that time, there were three principal gods. There was Zeus the god of the sky. Poseidon the god of the ocean and the deep. And Hades the god of the underworld and the dead. This was actually just a demon that was manifesting as Hades. As an act of worship the people would sacrifice their babies. They would throw their own children into the hole in the side of the mountain as an act of worship to Hades, hoping to appease the anger of their god. This was just another manifestation of Baal and we see this same manifestation ruling over the United States of America to this day as human sacrifice takes place through the institution of abortion.

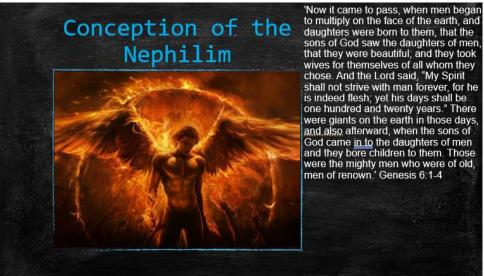


Imagine that in this darkest of dark places on earth, Jesus chose to reveal the most brilliant revelation of light that the world had ever known. Imagine if you would for a moment: taking all the evil all the sin and wickedness of the worst part of San Francisco and all the sin and wickedness and evil of Las Vegas and all the sin and wickedness of New Orleans, and then roll them all together in one place. What I'm telling you is the place that Jesus took his disciples was even more wicked and dark and evil to them in their day then these three places would be to us in our day.

Jesus took them there for a revelation. And that revelation is found in Matthew 16:13-19. Here is that passage taken from the New King James version of the Bible.

"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?" So, they said, some say John the Baptist: some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. He said to them, but who do you say that I am? Peter

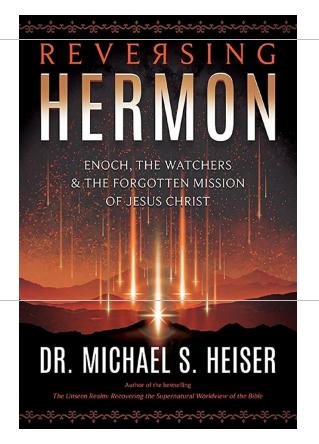
The Nephalim

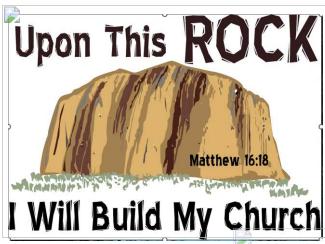


conception of the nephalim We read about this in Genesis 6:1-4. 6 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. 3 And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive[a] with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." 4 There were [b]giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

Mt. Hermon was also the place of

This These were called the nephalim. They produced at a half breed. Giants who were half Faller angel and half human. So the fallen angels came down and had intercourse on this mountain with women. If you would like to read more about this, Supplemental reading that you can do called Reversing Hermon, The author is Heiser. This book is available online. The subtitle is Enoch, The watchers and the forgotten plesus Christ. He gives proof and evidence that what took place in Genesis 6, took place on Mount Hermon, the very place Jesus took his disciples for this revelatory teaching moment.





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jumped up being the first one to answer, like he often was. Said you are

the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Peter didn't think that up by himself

did he? Jesus knew this because he 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" has revealed it to you. "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. And it and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you lose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

It's the word Ekklesia. He said the word Ekklesia not the word Church The words church and Ekklesia don't even come close to meaning the same thing. You will see this very clearly as we deal with these two words over the next two weeks.

This is the New King James version of this passage. And notice in this translation of the Bible, Jesus says, "upon this rock I will build my church" but what you're going to learn over the next couple of weeks is that he didn't actually say that. He did not say the word church. Actually, the word he spoke and is written in our New Testaments is a Greek word. That Greek word is not in our English language today. So we're going to have to put meaning to it and help you understand what that word is.

There has been a gross intentional mistranslation of Scripture. You will have to trust me on that for now. I'll catch you up on that when we later with what the word "church" means. King James intentionally mistranslated the Bible.. He told his translators to translate that word intentional as the word "church". This was not the words original meaning. William Tyndale was the first one who translated the Bible into English. He translated the Greek New Testament into English and he didn't use the word "church" he used the word "congregation". This is a better translation. I want you to know that there is a huge difference between a congregation which can be defined as people and the word "Church" which means a building or a system. So, we will distinguish these differences for you in subsequent chapters.

Each chapter will have an application and an activation so that we will be doers of the word and not just a hearers only. To be doers, we must put the word into action. Let's put action to it and do something with what we are learning. If you do these application and activations, and if we are successful in teaching in this book and if your coach is successful in coaching you, at the end of this reading and your time of coaching you will see a congregation of Christ rising up in your community. You will have a home congregation. This guarantee is conditional upon you doing the homework. You must do the application and activation share the results with others.



If you do not do the application and activation at the end of each chapter, there's no guarantee that you will have an Ekklesia of Christ. You will not have a home congregation. But if you do, I guarantee you will have a home congregation by the end of going through this material.

So, here's your application and activation for this chapter. The Greek word "Ekklesia" occurs 118 times in the New Testament. Out of that,115 times its translated "Church" and 3 times it's translated "assembly". What we're

going to ask you to do is get a good concordance, like Strong's Exhaustive Concordance. I like that one because it has exhaustive meaning.

It lists every time the word Ekklesia occurs in the New Testament. The Exhaustive Concordance will show every occurrence. We are asking you to find all 115 times that Ekklesia is translated "church".

Take a highlighter and highlight that word "church" every time it occurs in your New Testament. Then over in the margin or in the column in the middle write the word "Ekklesia".

We want ydou to learn what Jesus did say. And what he meant, when he said what he said. It's important for us to know what he said and what he meant when he said it. He did not say the word "church". He said Ekklesia. And so in the next two chapters we are going to deal with these two words. In the next chapter we are going to answer the question, what is Ekklesia? In the following chapter, we will look at what is church. We are going to look not only at what Jesus said, but what he meant when he said what he said. So, you will know what Jesus is doing today.

This will help you because as you read the New Testament, each time you come across the word "church" in the future, your mind will replace it with the original work which is actually "Ekklesia". We are going to help you put a new definition to the word "Ekklesia". You will understand the words that are supposed to be used and how they were to be translated. When you read scripture then you'll understand what Jesus was saying. And you'll understand what the disciples were doing when they gathered together in the New Testament. They gathered in a home congregation, an Ekklesia of Christ.

Now don't worry, we are not taking something away from the Word of God and we are not adding to scripture at all. We are correcting a mistranslation of Sc

ripture. And all we're asking you to do is highlight a word that is in the Bible. We're not asking you to take it out of the Bible. We're asking you to highlight it and to write another word in the margin, where people typically write study notes and comments. This is meant to be a reminder for you about the great differences between the words "Church" and "Ekklesia".

