



IT'S THE LORD'S CHURCH

MATTHEW 16:13-20



Crossroads and intersections are often filled with uncertainties.

- Important decisions are to be made.
- If we make bad decisions we can regret it for the rest of our lives.
- There is nervousness and anxiety.
- But thankfully, this is church.
- It is the Lord's church.
- So there's excitement and hope.



1. This is the Lord's church.

- ▶ Because it is the Lord's church, everything is going to be alright.
- ▶ The church is God's building
 - ▶ (1 Pet. 2:4, 5 "Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, **5** you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.")
- ▶ The church is the bride of Christ
 - ▶ (Eph. 5:25, 26 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **26** that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **27** that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.")
- ▶ The church is the body of Christ
 - ▶ (Rom. 12:5 "so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another")



2. The Lord will build His church.

- ▶ Jesus is the builder (the contractor, the foreman, the architect).
 - ▶ He is building His church on strong foundation, He Himself being that foundation
 - ▶ 1 Cor. 3:11 “For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”
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3. The Lord will preserve and secure His church.

- The church has enemies
- The gates of hell is against the people of God (the church)
- But the gates of hell **cannot** prevail...
- The church will not be defeated



4. Jesus gave to man the keys (the authority) to function in the church (v. 19).

- The authority to preach the Word
- The authority to lead in the church
- The authority to cast out devils
- The authority to speak to sicknesses and diseases
- The authority to bring others into the church

CONCLUSION

- It is important that we keep focus on why the church is being built.
- **Peter 2:9-10** “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people, **that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you** out of darkness into his marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”
- **Eph. 4:11-15** And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; **14** that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, **15** but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--

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