

The Gates of Hell

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Jesus said "I will build my Church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it". If you knew where Jesus was standing when He said that it would give you a whole new revelation of the mystery of Babylon and the war of the saints.

The Gates of Hell, Pan and the Church.

There is a place in the Golan Heights in Israel that has a sign pointing to "HELL". Below is a picture of this tourist attraction. In Jesus day it was known as "**The gates of hell**" by the Jews or the Grotto of Pan by the Greeks and Romans. It is important for the Kingdom Church to understand what happened here, what Jesus said and did here and what satan did here...very important!



Pan's Grotto or the "Gates of Hell" today and the shrine is Jesus' day.

The phrase "**the gates of hell**" is a favourite rhetorical flourish by preachers. Mostly they have no idea what it means but it sounds impressive. Jesus said "**I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it!**" One tends to get the impression of huge say iron gates and behind them flames of fire and the church crashing through to hell?! Actually Jesus was standing here at "the gates of hell" with his disciples when He made this declaration and so they knew what He was talking about and it is time we the Church understood what He was talking about.

To understand what is going on here we need to understand where this took place, what happened here in history and what was said and done here. (For background read Mathew 16 and 17 and Luke 9):

- The location of the "gates of hell" was at the base of Mt. Hermon in the Golan Heights, Northern Israel and at the base of the mountain in Jesus day was the city of Caesarea Philippi.
- In past history of Israel this was Dan the place where Jeroboam erected a golden calf worship centre to stop Israel from worshiping in Jerusalem.
- It was on this Mt. Hermon that the fallen angels of Genesis 6 and 1 Enoch 6 descended in human form and inter-married with the daughters of men.

- Its location is therefore sacred to all occult societies being on the 33 degree latitude and 33 longitude (from the Paris meridian) and why 33 degrees is important to the Masonic orders.
- One of the leaders of the fallen angels was called Azazel (meaning "goat") but the Greeks called him Pan and was depicted as half man and half goat (see picture). In Revelations he is referred to as Abaddon (meaning "destroyer"), in Isaiah in the KJV he is (incorrectly) referred to as "Lucifer" but Jesus called him "satan".
- As a recognized place of high occult power, a shrine to the god Pan (Azazel, or satan) was built here with a temple that led into a cave in the mountain. It was a place to seek help and power from the priests of satan. The Romans called it the Grotto of Pan, the Jews called it "the gates of hell".
- It was here that Jesus took His disciples and for the first time revealed to them that He was the Messiah, the Son of God and that He would die and be resurrected.
- Then He told them He would build His Church and "the gates of hell would not prevail against it".
- And then He took Peter, James and John up the mountain to go and pray and there Jesus was transformed before them into His glorified body with Moses and Elijah communing with Him and God declaring, "This is my beloved Son..."



Pan or Azazel

Now let me explain to you what is going on here...

The "hell" that is being referred to here is not the flames of fire. There are three words used for hell in the Bible: "sheol", "hades" and "gehenna". The first two refer to the place of spirits or the spirit world. Gehenna refers to a burning rubbish dump outside of Jerusalem. Revelations 20 tells us that "death **and hell were cast into the lake of fire.**" So when you see a picture in your mind of flames of fire that is not technically "hell"...that is the "lake of fire" into which hell is cast one day.

So when Jews and Romans were going to the Grotto of Pan they were going to a gateway to the spirit world where they could get help from the demonic spirits that resided there. Today in popular literature it is also called a "Stargate". An opening into the "quantum field", a means to manipulate time and space, access to the hidden powers that govern the universe and from which time, matter and space are made.

Throughout all human history from the fall in Eden, to the building of the Tower of Babel, to the construction of the Pyramids and Sphinx, to the alchemists and hermeticists, all the way through to today's occult societies and on to and including all the top spy agencies of the super powers, the military establishments, the major corporations and major religious movements....all want access to the powers of the heavens. And to do that you need to build a gateway to hades....for which you need the help of the 'gatekeepers', Azazel and his companion fallen angels and demons.

The builders of the Tower of Babel were after this super power. And this is what God said of them, if they are able to do this "**then nothing that they can imagine can be withheld from them**" (Gen 11:6)...and it was not a tower to reach up high into the sky...it was a "stargate", a gate to access the powers of "hades" so that they can do the impossible.

If you can reach into this realm incredible powers are available there. It is a timeless realm where the past and the future stretch out like a universal internet that you can access the past and the future. You can access time cycles to know if it is time for war or how to obtain wealth and treasure (the alchemist dream of turning lead to gold). And then there was the ultimate longing...how to be one of the gods and live forever!

And that is why people went to temples and shrines in those days. That is why they sacrificed to occult powers. And don't think this is just myths of the ancients...there is a difference between myth and mystery. These are mysteries and powers that today are being explored and exploited by top corporations, spy agencies and even churches.

Upon This Rock...

This famous declaration by Jesus is misinterpreted by both Catholics and evangelicals. When you see where Jesus was standing and what He was pointing to you will understand why...and what the mission of the Church is!

In Matthew 16:13-20 we have that well known interchange between Jesus and Peter:
"Peter, who do men say that I am?"

"Peter answered him and said, You are the Christ the Son of the living God."

And Jesus commends him saying, "Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter and on this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

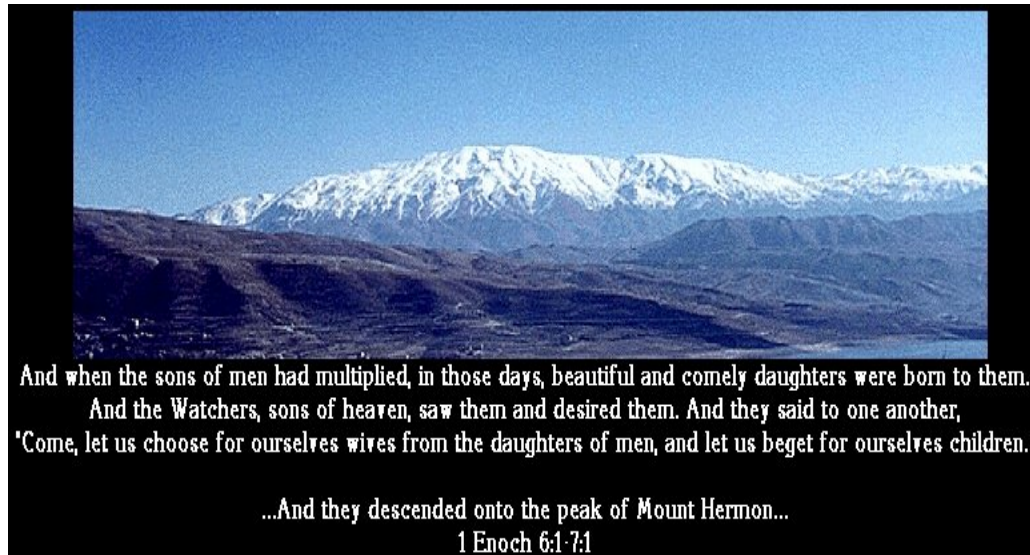
This passage is a point of great contention between Catholics and evangelicals. For Catholics "this rock" is Peter as the first Pope and true apostolic succession and authority therefore passes down from Peter through all the lines of Popes.

For evangelicals this is unacceptable. For them it is the confession of Peter as to the Lordship of Jesus that is "the rock" upon which the Church is to be built.

They are both wrong! The key to understanding what Jesus was saying and implying is to be found in the location where they were standing. Let me explain: If we look at this passage of scripture both in Matthew 16 and Luke 9 we find that Jesus and His

disciples had journeyed north and were now in Caesarea Philippi. Immediately after this interlude between Jesus and Peter we find that He takes Peter, James and John "up a high mountain" where the entire great drama of the transfiguration takes place.

Jesus and the disciples were in Caesarea Philippi at the base of Mount Hermon. Mark 9:2 says, ***"And after six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them..."***



When Jesus said "upon this rock I will build my Church..." He was pointing to Mount Hermon! Mount Hermon is the place where the book of Enoch describes where the rebellious angels came down to mingle with mankind.

This was a declaration of war! Jesus was making direct reference to Micah 4:1-2 ***"But in the last days it shall come to pass that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord...and He shall teach us His ways.."***

And that is why Jesus points to Mt. Hermon and its many shrines that were entryways to hell and dismissively calls it a "rock" and says I will build right on top of it and crush it and the gates of hell in it will not stop me in my purpose to crush it and bring deliverance to the nations of the world.

That is why we have this wonderful picture in Rev.21-22 of the New Jerusalem with its many gates from which flow living waters for the healing of the nations.

Where the fallen angels and demonic hordes were in greatest concentration on earth Jesus triumphantly ascends that mountain and displays His power and glory to His disciples. And upon coming down from the mountain the first thing He does is cast out demons. (Luke 9:42) So much so that, ***"all the people were amazed at the mighty power of God."*** (Luke 9:43)