

# **THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL**

Pastor's Bible Hour – August 24, 2008  
Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson  
[www.topmanteca.org](http://www.topmanteca.org)

**Mat 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock (Divine Revelation) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Mat 16:19** And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**Mat 16:20** Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

**1Ti 6:12** Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

1. **Hell has been at war with this great Church for two thousand years without question**, and yet so many in the Church have not been at war with the gates of Hell. Therefore in many places and with homes and with many people the gates of Hell have prevailed.
2. **The Words of Condoleezza Rice** when she appeared before the 9/11 Commission said “The fact is the terrorists have been at war with us for years. We’ve just never been at war with them.
3. **Hell is aggressive**. Hell recognizes no boundary, it honors no perimeters. The powers of darkness have always been on the attack. If Jesus was not exempt from Satan’s attack, neither is the Church. Hell continues to wage war against this great Apostolic Church.
4. **Hell hath enlarged Herself**: The Drug problems have been enlarged, Police forces have been enlarged, Rebellion has been enlarged, gang problems have been enlarged, Hollywood programs have been enlarged, and now even being accepted in some of the ranks of our Pentecostal homes of Holy Ghost filled people, The fashions and the influence of this culture are trying to make major inroads into our churches. We are in a

war, I refuse to tone it down, and the pulpit must still blow the trumpet separation from the world and its evil influences.

5. **Trumpets in the Old Testament were for two reasons:** The trumpet for people to assemble and the trumpet for war.

Isa 5:13 Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because *they have* no knowledge: and their honorable men *are* famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.

**Isa 5:14** Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

### **INDIFFERENCE IS THE MENACE TO THE HUMAN SOUL**

**Amo 6:1** Woe to them *that are* at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, *which are* named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

1. **Indifference is the menace to the human soul.** When the mind and the spirit of a man absorb high degrees of indifference, his level of resistance is decreased, which leads to dire consequences. In society, evil men are unshackled and make prey on our society. Freedoms are lost. Liberties and safety are swallowed up quietly. Courts and judges lose sight of justice and righteousness and rule by shallow interpretations. The outcome can become devastating to society and all people everywhere.
2. **The same in the spiritual realm, Indifference can have even greater consequences.** Our children are captured by our culture and are led away to the depths of darkness. Marriages disintegrate, churches become weak, ineffective and powerless. Altar services die. Worship is without focus. Revival is unrealized. A lost world remains lost. Defeat, sickness and unbelief become the NORM.

### **REVIVAL IS OUR SURVIVAL!**

**Jer 8:20** The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.

3. We cannot allow ourselves to be indifferent to the war that HELL rages against the Truth, the Church and God's purpose.
4. Our Defense is the whole armor of God:

Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Eph 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

### OUR DEFENSE IS THE SPIRIT AND THE WORD

Isa 59:19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. **When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.**

1. Our enemy has the capacity to “come in like a flood” The powerful restraining force against the gates of hell is the Spirit of God. The Spirit rises the standard against the enemy, and puts to flight the powers of Hell. The Spirit of God must be moving in our services and in our altars.

**Zec 4:6** Then he answered and spoke unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

Zec 4:7 Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof with shoutings, crying*, Grace, grace unto it.

2. In Galatians 3:5 tells us, “*He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by hearing of faith.*”

- a. **The word “ministereth” in the Greek means to supply.** The more accurate meaning of this scripture is “He that supplieth you to the Spirit” It is God that supplies to us the Spirit to give us strength and the insight to work with the Spirit.
3. **Let the Spirit supply to us faith, power, and strength** and let us put on the whole armor of God, then we will be lacking nothing for our success and complete victory in this age of evil and wickedness!
4. **God will supply His spirit for war!** God will and has supplied the armor and the support we need. If we are not careful, we can become the architect of our own demise, the victim of our indifference, Our own default can be our very defeat.
5. **The Spirit of God must be at liberty to work in our Church,** The Spirit of God must be in the Music, in the altar services and in all our ministries. **The Spirit must help us to pray**

Rom 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

6. **We cannot be indifferent to what the powers of Hell are doing,** nor can we be indifferent to what the Spirit of God wants to do in us and through us.

**1Jn 4:4** Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

7. **2 Corinthians 3:17 says,** “Now the Lord is that Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty,” That word liberty means release. Where the Spirit is, there is release. Where the Spirit is active, we be released from the powers of Hell. In addition, when the Spirit is released in worship, in praise and in Apostolic ministries people are released from disease, from sickness, from fear, pain and suffering.

## LET THE HIGH PRAISES BE IN YOUR MOUTH

Psa 149:2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

Psa 149:3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

Psa 149:4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Psa 149:5 Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

**Psa 149:6** *Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;*

Psa 149:7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen, *and* punishments upon the people;

Psa 149:8 To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

Psa 149:9 To execute upon them the judgment written: this honor have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.