

He Didn't Just Take the High Ground, He Staged It

Written by Bill Perkins

Jesus had just declared war.
Standing in Caesarea Philippi-a city drenched in pagan
worship, shadowed by a cave locals
called the gate to the underworld-He
said: "On this rock I will build
My church, and the gates of Hades
will not overcome it."
(Matthew 16:18)

Then He climbed higher.

Six days later, Jesus took Peter,
James, and John up Mount
Hermon-the highest peak in the region,
towering above the gates He had just named.
And there, He was transfigured.
"His face shone like the sun, and His clothes
became as white as the light."
(Matthew 17:2)

Moses and Elijah appeared.
The Father's voice thundered: "This is My beloved Son?
Listen to Him."
(Matthew 17:5)

You may not know this about Jesus:
He didn't just speak victory-He staged it.
He stood above the gates
of hell and revealed His glory.
He didn't retreat from enemy territory.
He claimed the high ground.

And that's why we give thanks.
Because our gratitude isn't rooted in comfort
or circumstance-it's rooted in Christ's victory.
The mountain wasn't just a moment of radiance.
It was a declaration:
The Son of Man reigns above
every false god, every dark power,
every gate that dares to stand against Him.

This Thanksgiving, we thank God that Jesus Christ,
the Son of Man and the Son
of God, reigns above them all.