

He Took the High Ground

"I also tell you that you're Peter, and on this rock I'll build My church, and the gates of Hades won't prevail against it."

MATTHEW 16:18

Written by Bill Perkins

Jesus had just declared war.
Standing in Caesarea Philippi —
a city drenched in pagan worship
and 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.

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.