## "God Among Us Series" God's Gathering

25 February 2018 | Greg Haswell

15 "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to

**MATTHEW 18:15-20** 

the church (local gathering— tēi ekklēsiāi); and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. 18 "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again, truly I tell you that if two

**MATTHEW 18:15-20** 

of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

**MATTHEW 18:15-20** 

### Let's talk about church

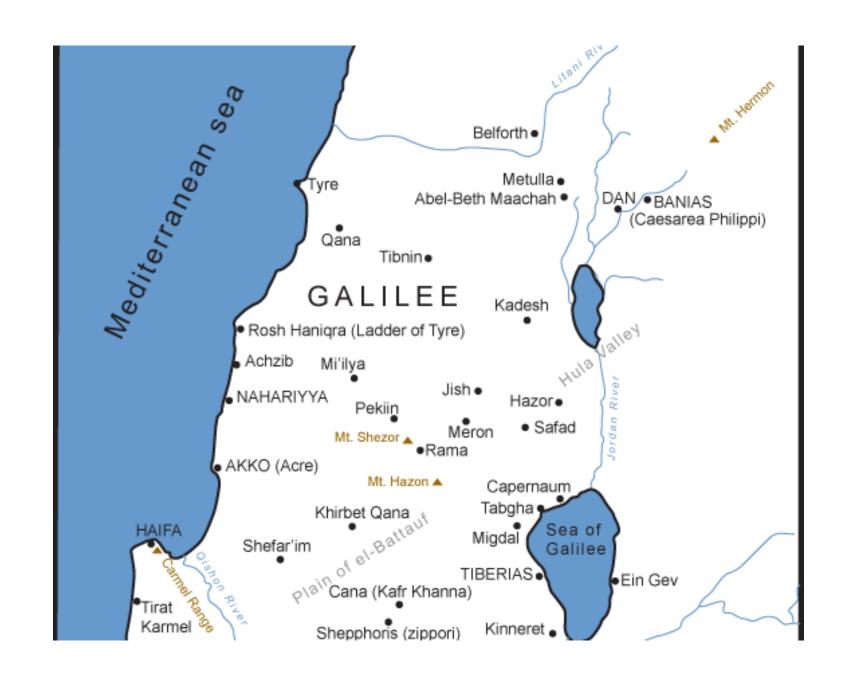
11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

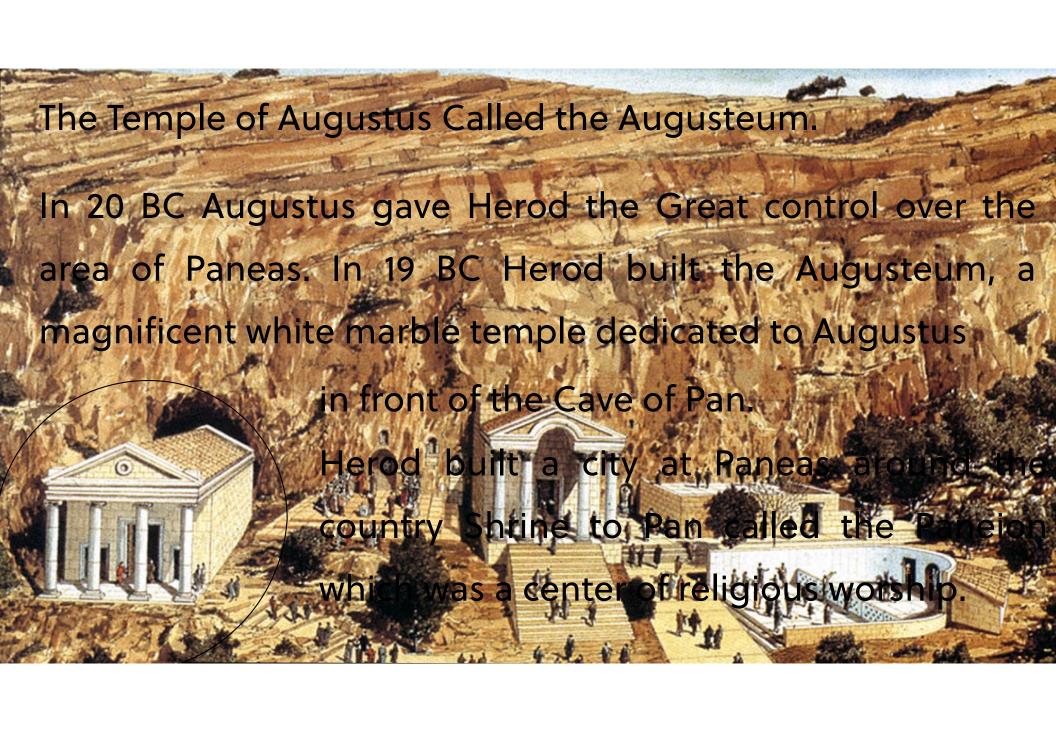
EPHESIANS 6:11-12

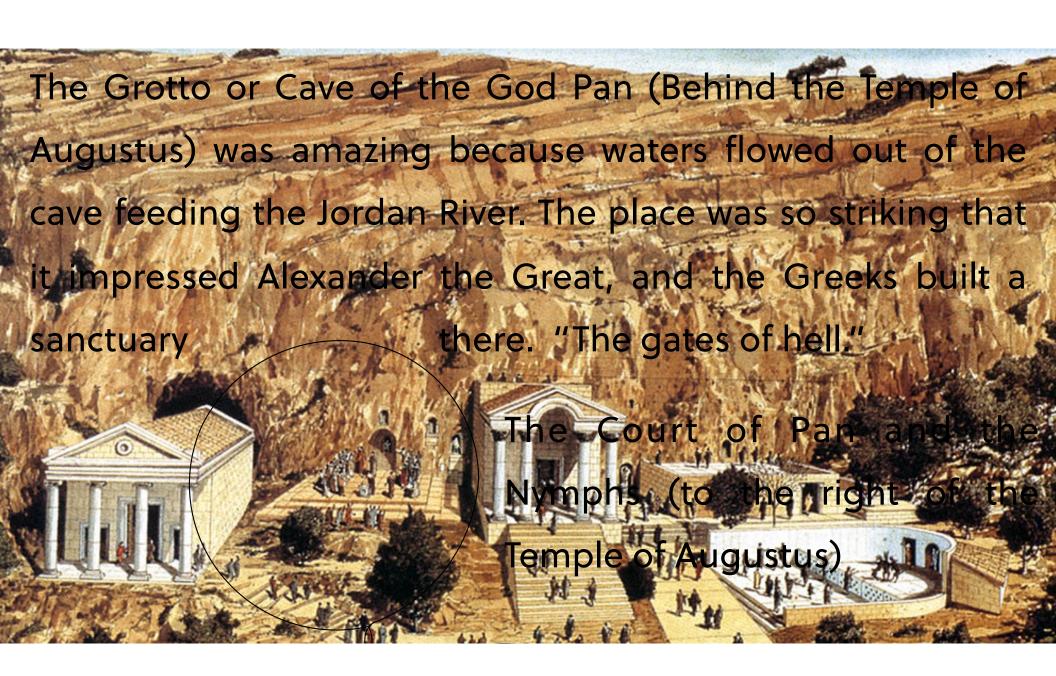
13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon

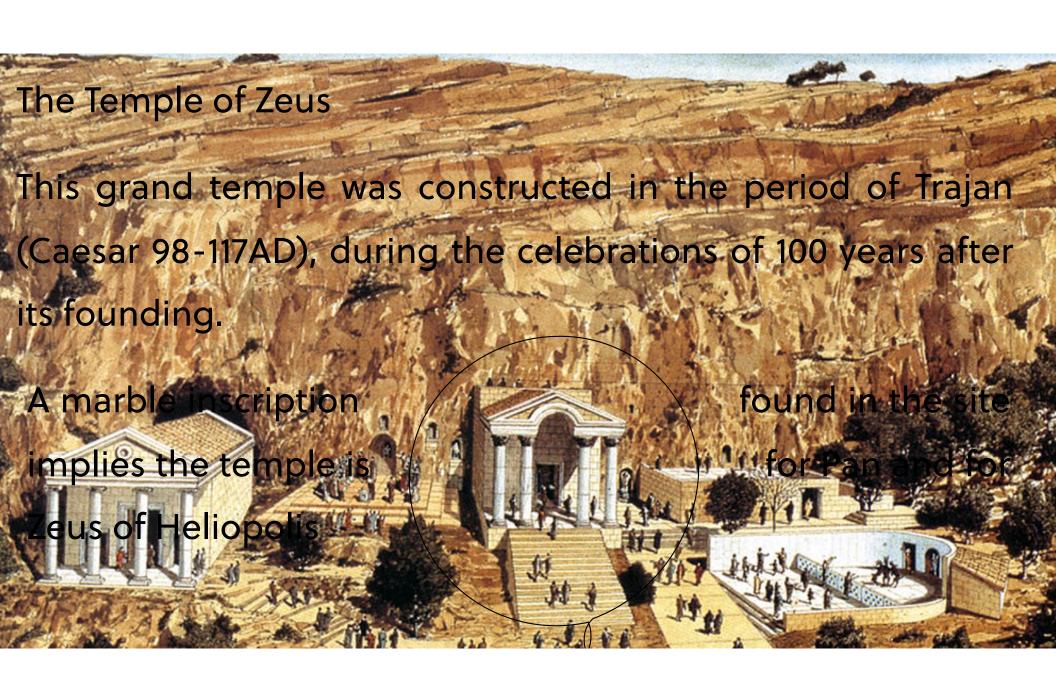
Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, (global gathering - tēn ekklēsian) and the

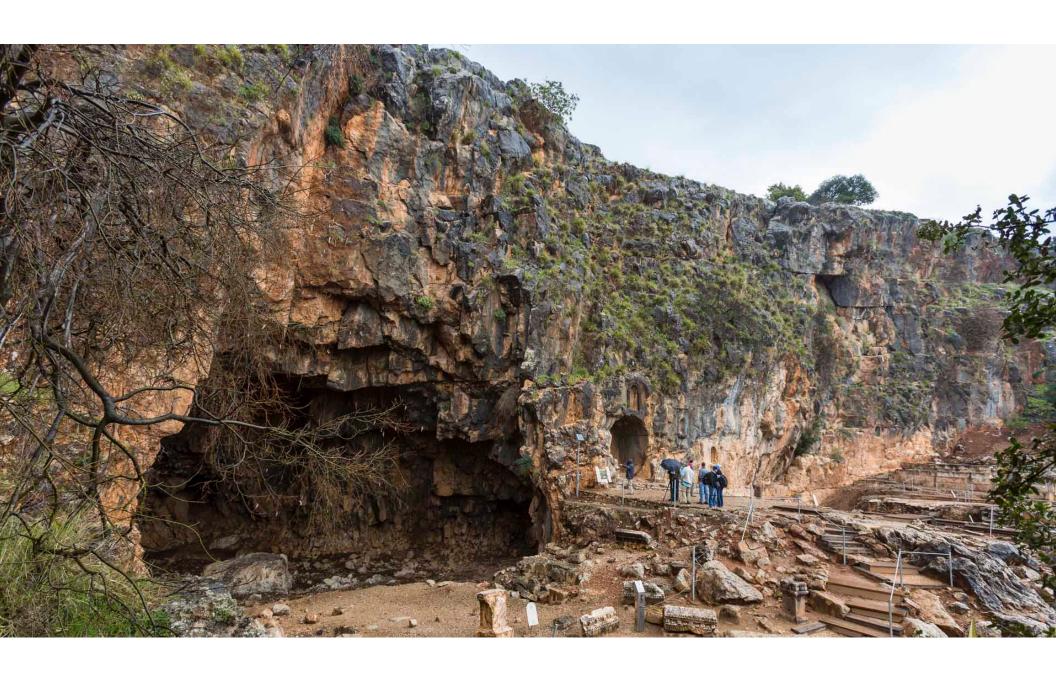
gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."











# We've been given the keys of the Kingdom

18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Let's use the keys of the Kingdom

#### GOVERNMENT

#### **BOUND**

Corruption, intimidation, the love of money (Bribery)

Racism, sexism, favoritism, cronyism

Lethargy regarding illegal drugs, sexual trafficking and sexual oppression of any kind, underage drinking

#### **LOOSED**

Godly men and women who will lead in the fear of God

Passionate people, stirred with righteous clarity and a desire to help everyone in their constituency Destruction of sin and resistance of those who usher it into our city and nation

#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

#### **BOUND**

#### **LOOSED**

The thieving away of hurting children and runaways

The ability of trafficking rings to hide and operate without detection
The ability to profit from trafficking
The idea that sex work is a legitimate and acceptable employment

Law enforcement breakthroughs in the uncovering and capture of perpetrators

Societal backlash and abhorrence of trafficking

God's passionate heart to His people to rescue and love those trafficked

#### ECONOMY

#### **BOUND**

Greed for personal gain at the expense of others (strength by making others weak)

Willingness to forsake a more stable future for instant gratification (debt)

Poverty, hopelessness, call to illegal activity to make ends meet

#### **LOOSED**

Economic prosperity, thriving businesses of all sizes, bigger salaries, better working conditions

Passion to save and invest in infrastructure and the future as a heritage for our children

Creative programs to destroy poverty in our city - loans, education and mentorship

#### **FAMILY**

#### **BOUND**

Division, misunderstanding, rebellion and hurtful speech

Hard heart towards Jesus, His church and His kingdom

Paths that lead to temptation

Accessibility of evil

Selfishness

#### **LOOSED**

Unity, understanding, love and life giving speech

The yearnings of the Holy Spirit and His calling on each family member

Led away from temptation towards God's plans

Deliverance from evil

Passionate contribution to others

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