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## Matthew 16:13-19

13. “Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’

14. And they said, ‘Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.’

15. He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’

16. Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’

17. And Jesus said to him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

18. ‘I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

19. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.’”

Verses 13 and 14 read, “Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some *say* John the Baptist; and others,

Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.””

1. John the Baptist--After Jesus sent His twelve disciples out with power over the unclean spirits Mark 6:13-16 records: “And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them. And King Herod heard *of it*, for His name had become well known; and *people* were saying, ‘John the Baptist has risen from the dead, and that is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him.’ But others were saying, ‘He is Elijah.’ And others were saying, ‘*He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.*’ But when Herod heard *of it*, he kept saying, ‘John, whom I beheaded, has risen!’””

2. Elijah--According to II Kings 2:11 Elijah never saw physical death, instead “a chariot of fire and horses of fire” picked him up “by a whirlwind” and he was delivered into heaven!

Also, Malachi, the last of the Old Testament prophets prophesied for the Lord: “Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.”

3. Jeremiah or one of the prophets--Jeremiah was the “most interesting prophetic figure in the Old Testament” because he was the “most Christian of all the prophets.” One author is quoted as saying Jeremiah was the “most Christlike” of all prophets.

A prophet to people today in the western world would equal to Buddha, Mohammed, and Confucius as the

old figures or Sun Yung Moon and Joseph Smith as the figures today.

But Scripture is clear. Acts 4:12 states, “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven, that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.”

I Timothy 2:5 says, “There is one God, and one mediator also between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.”

In John 14:6 Jesus says, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

Next week: But who do you say Jesus is?