

OFFENDING CHRIST  
(Matthew 16:21-23)

- I. The PLAN of God (Matt. 16:21)
  - A. Transition to greater CLARITY
    - 1. They had AFFIRMED that He is the CHRIST (16:16)
    - 2. He begins to REVEAL what is COMING
  - B. Statement of a divine IMPERATIVE: “MUST”
  - C. Revelation of the divine PROGRAM
    - 1. He must GO to JERUSALEM
    - 2. He must SUFFER at the hands of JEWISH leaders
    - 3. He must be MURDERED
    - 4. He must be RAISED UP on the third day
- II. The PRESUMPTION of Peter (Matt. 16:22)
  - A. Desire for PRIVACY
    - 1. This indicates Jesus’ HUMANITY
    - 2. This was an act of a FRIEND
  - B. Statement of REBUKE
    - 1. He was the acknowledged LEADER of the APOSTLES (16:19)

2. He assumed he now SPOKE for GOD (16:17)
3. He DENIED the TRUTH of Jesus' statement

### III. The PROTEST of Christ (Matt. 16:23a)

#### A. Sharp RETORT: "Get BEHIND Me"

1. Could mean, "REMEMBER your PLACE"
2. Probably means, "GET OUT of My WAY"

#### A. Stinging DENUNCIATION: "SATAN"

1. It was a REMINDER of His temptation (cf. 4:10)
2. It was a REPETITION of His temptation (cf. Lk 4:13)
3. Peter had just SPOKEN for SATAN

#### B. New MEANING of an earlier METAPHOR

1. He had called Peter a ROCK upon which Jesus would BUILD
2. He had become a ROCK over which Jesus might STUMBLE

### IV. The PRINCIPLES for US (Matt. 16:23b)

#### A. Beware a focus on HUMAN INTERESTS

#### B. Maintain a focus on GOD'S INTERESTS

1. God's plan of SALVATION conflicts with man's EXPECTATION
2. God's means of REFINING us involves SUFFERING