

A background graphic featuring several hands of different colors (tan, grey, and light blue) reaching upwards from the bottom and sides of the frame, creating a sense of reaching or prayer.

Doug's Reflection

09-27-26 THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Regarding unity, it's important for us to remember the words of Jesus the Christ Himself from Matthew 16:18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it." Notice what Jesus says here! Many ministers focus on what Jesus said about the "everlastingness" of His kingdom: "The gates of Hades shall not overpower it." What too often gets overlooked, however, is Jesus' simple use of a personal pronoun. Jesus called Peter a rock, and said: "upon this rock I will build MY church." Notice the personal pronoun! Jesus did not say that it would be the church of Matthew, or Mark, or Luke, or John, or even Peter. Jesus said: "I will build MYchurch." The meaning is plain. God's church on earth belongs to Jesus and to no one else. The church most assuredly is not ours; it's Jesus'.