

Treasure Hunt

- What common structure is repeated across vv. 18-20?
- Which comes first in each case—heaven’s action, or what we do?
- What do “binding” and “loosing” mean?
- Who is given the authority to bind or loose based on heaven’s decisions?
- How can we decide what conduct is acceptable today?
- Is 18:19 talking about prayer, or something else?
- What does it mean to “gather together unto my name”?

Relations with Other Disciples

18:1-35 Relations with other disciples

1-4 Question and Answer

Q: 1 Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

A: The Lord divides the question

- 2-3 answers, "Who is in the kingdom?"
- 4 answers, "Who is greatest?"

5-14 Do not give offense

5-9 The Principle

10-14 The Parable: The Wayward Sheep

15-35 Dealing with the sin of others

15-20 The Principle

21-35 The Parable: The Two Debtors

Mat 13:41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom

- all things that **offend**,
- and them which **do iniquity**;

Repetitive Structure of vv. 18-20

<p>18 Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth</p>	<p>and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth</p>	<p>19 if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask,</p>	<p>20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name,</p>
<p>shall be bound in heaven:</p>	<p>shall be loosed in heaven.</p>	<p>it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.</p>	<p>there am I in the midst of them.</p>

Binding and Loosing (again)

Mat 16:19 whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Loose: permit conduct:

Mat 5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break [loose] one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven:

Bind: restrict conduct:

Mat 23:3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. 4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

Verbs: future perfects

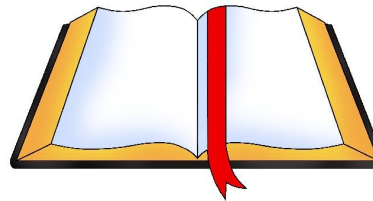
Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth **shall have been bound** in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth **shall have been loosed** in heaven.

18:18, Setting Standards of Conduct

Bound/Loosed in Heaven



Decisions by the apostles
in the first century churches



Recorded in Acts
and the Epistles

The basis for our
conduct today



Images: http://www.stpius5.org/_wizardimages/12_apostles.gif; <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/736x/d2/9d/a7/d29da76927af980edaa1a636ecadc9a1.jpg> ;
<http://catacombchurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Theology-around-dinner-table.jpg>

18:19—A Promise for Prayer?

Conditions for Answered Prayer

Joh 15:7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you**, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Joh 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father **in my name**, he may give it you. (also 14:13, 14; 16:23, 24)

Mat 18:19 if two of you shall **agree** on earth as touching any **thing** that they shall **ask**, it shall be ~~done~~ for them of my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 20:2 And when he had **agreed** with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

1Co 6:1 Dare any of you, having a **matter** against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?

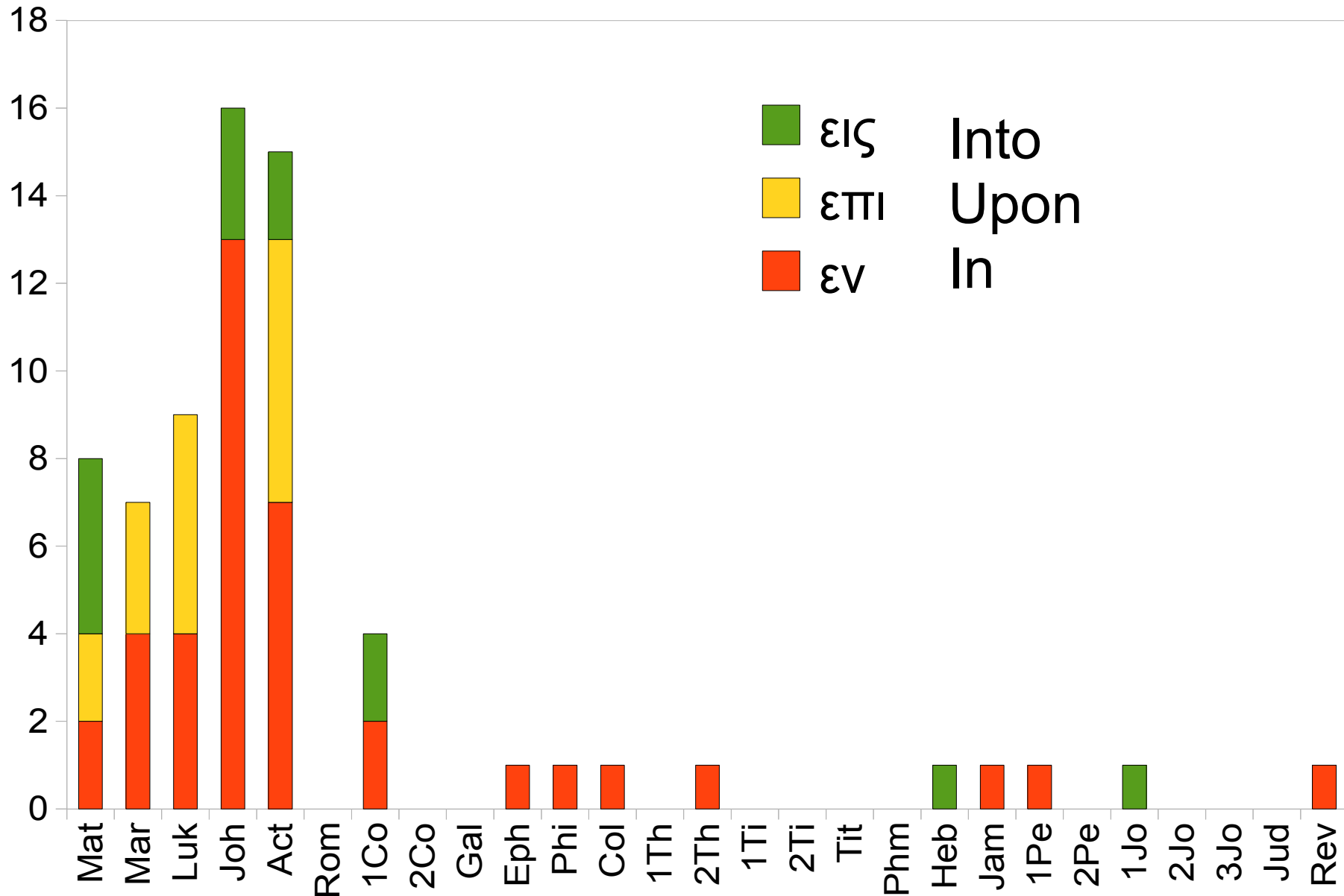
Mat 5:42 Give to him that **asketh** thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Mat 14:7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would **ask**.

Mat 27:20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should **ask** Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

Mat 27:58 He went to Pilate, and **begged** the body of Jesus.

Different Prepositions for “In [the Name]”: Distribution



Different Prepositions for “In [the Name]”: Meaning

Recall “name” ~ “person”

“in εν the name”: authority

Mat 21:9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed *is* he that cometh **in the name** of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

“upon επι the name”: mentioning the name

18:5 And whoso shall receive one such little child **in my name** receiveth me.

24:5 For many shall come **in my name**, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

“unto εις the name”: purpose or objective

Mat 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together **in my name**, there am I in the midst of them.

28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them **in the name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

cf. 1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all **baptized into εις one body**, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.