

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

KEY SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 16:19

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:13-19 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? ¹⁴ And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. ¹⁵ He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? ¹⁶ And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. ¹⁷ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

A KEY IS MOST COMMONLY USED TO SIMPLY... OPEN DOORS!!

TO POSSESS A KEY IS SIGN OF OWNERSHIP.. OR PRIVILEGE.

IT CAN BE SYMBOLIC OF A POSITION OR RELATIONSHIP.

GOD HAS ENTRUSTED US WITH A POSITION OF AUTHORITY AND POWER BASED ON OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM AS SONS OF GOD!! THE DEEPER OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.. THE MORE POWERFUL OUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY CAN BECOME.

POTIPHER ENTRUSTED JOSEPH WITH ALL HE POSSESSED.

ABRAHAM GAVE EVERYTHING HE HAD TO ISAAC!!

CHRIST HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING WE NEED TO DO HIS WORK AND HIS WILL !!

THE CHURCH IS BUILT ON JESUS CHRIST... BUT HE HAS HANDED US THE KEYS!!

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

GOD HAS GIVEN THE CHURCH AND THE SONS OF GOD.. SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY!!

" And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

AMAZING AUTHORITY.. THAT GOD HAS PLACED IN THE HANDS OF HIS PEOPLE.

WE SHOULD LEARN THE PROPER USE AND EXERCISE OF SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY!!

JOSEPH EARNED THE TRUST OF POTIPHER . THROUGH WISE STEWARDSHIP!!

GOD IS NO FOOL... HE WILL INVEST HIS TALENTS WISELY!!

Luke 10:17-20 (KJV)

¹⁷ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. ¹⁸ And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰ Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

EVEN WHILE JESUS WAS STILL ON EARTH.. HE BEGAN TO INVEST AUTHORITY AND SPIRITUAL TASK TO THOSE WHO FOLLOWED HIM. BUT NOTICE HE REEMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF SONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP.

QUESTION: DO WE REALLY BELIEVE WE ARE FIGHTING PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS?
 IF SO HOW ARE WE FIGHTING THEM?
 WE MUST DEFEAT THE POWERS OF DARKNESS THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER AND
 SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY... BIND THE POWERS OF DARKNESS.. LOOSE THE POWER OF
 JESUS CHRIST.

THERE ARE INDEED DEMONS AND ANGELS.. WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF AN ETERNAL
 STRUGGLE!! WE HAVE AN ADVERSARY...

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about,
 seeking whom he may devour: ⁹ Whom resist stedfast in the faith,
 WE HAVE AN ADVERSARY.. WHOM RESIST STEDFAST IN THE FAITH!!

WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE... JESUS CHRIST...

1 John 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we
 have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?

WE KNOW WHEN SATAN FELL TO EARTH.. HE BROUGHT A THIRD OF THE STARS OF
 HEAVEN TO EARTH WITH HIM... THAT LEAVES 2/3 OF THE ANGELS ON OUR SIDE!!

2 Kings 6:16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.
 LORD OPEN OUR EYES!! WE HAVE THE SUPERIOR POWER!!

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY IN THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH...

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be
 witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of
 the earth. WHEN YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY GHOST.. YOU RECEIVED POWER!!

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth
hour. **Acts 3:6** Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the
 name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

SUCH AS I HAVE.. GIVE I THEE.. WHAT DID HE HAVE? SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY!!

Acts 4:29-31 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all
 boldness they may speak thy word, ³⁰ By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders
 may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were
 all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

WHEN THREATENED BY SPIRITUAL AUTHORITIES.. THE APOSTLES LED THE CHURCH IN
 PRAYER!! LOOSED THE SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY THEY POSSESSED.

ACTS 10... CORNELIUS UNKNOWINGLY TAPPED INTO THE POWER OF THE SPIRITUAL
 WORLD... THROUGH PRAYER!! ANGELS AND APOSTLES CAME TO HIS ASSISTANCE!!
 HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD WE BE EFFECTIVE.. KNOWING THE POWER WE
 POSSESS. THE REAL POWER IS NOT IN THE KNOWING BUT IN THE DOING!! FAITH
 WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD!!

1 Corinthians 15:32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus,
 WHO WON?? **Acts 19:20** So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.