

The Keys

Mathew 16:19

19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

-This verse is given by Jesus at the same time as he named Simon Peter and told him he will build his church upon him (Peter) that is.

17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades[c] will not overcome it.

-The name Peter has a great significance in this passage because it also means church so if we read the passages in that understanding it seems like the power to loosen and to bind actually is given to the church through Peter.

Authority in prison?

When you are in prison who has the power inside the walls? Is it the worst criminal? No I tell you it is the one who carry the keys. They are the one with the real power. They can lock any door so whoever is on the inside have to stay there and they can open any door or doors for whom they prefer and they will be free to go.

So in **Mathew 19** there is a great transition of Power from Jesus and over to Peter. Jesus is giving him the authority to open or to close, to bind or set free, to held or let go.

And then there is a puzzle for my mind. What does he think we should bind as a church or what does he think we should free? Is he indicating that there will be something that is to bind in heaven, I thought we all would be free?

So according to the Lord's prayer is says in **Mathew 6:9-13** Let your will be done on earth as in heaven. So let us dig into the word of the Lord and try to find where we should or can use this authority.

Mark 1:22(NIV)

The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. So we need to seek this authority. Not for ourself to be someone, and be looked up to, but to live out the word of God, and exercise his power so his will can be done as on earth as in heaven.

Power over elements:

Throughout the bible we see that Jesus commands wind and waves to be quiet. Purpose – it scared the disciples, and scared disciples "bothered" Jesus when He wanted to sleep.

Healing:

Jesus healed crippled bodies – God gave him authority to do that. As in heaven it must mean there are no disable people in heaven, In Jesus God does not see our imperfections, disabilities or sin.

Give back what has been taken:

He was given the authority to open blinded eyes. As in heaven. It has to mean that than when we get to heaven, we will se everything for what it is. Not only the physical existence of things, but also see how it all is connected, knitted together in His perfect will.

Change the course of processes:

At one time Jesus used His authority to stop a funeral procession. It means we can also stop any process that has started even if it has to do with death and by this, I believe I am speaking directly to one of us here today. God has given us as a church the authority to stop processes, even if it has to do with death. And maybe the angel of death, named Hades in some passages is the most powerful of the evil authorities

Circumstances:

The church, or you as a representative of the church has the Authority to change your circumstance, just a quick reminder about this. Sometimes we have some lessons to learn, so ask the holy spirit before you start throwing your authority around. Is this for me to change or do I have something to learn.

The key points I just gave you are a few of doors the keys can open or close. Use the keys wisely not for your own gain, but to work for the kingdom. A good checkpoint is to ask yourself - does this give God glory. If not, please rethink and confirm with the Holy Spirit.

Unbelief:

This is the authority that these keys unlock yet somehow we have convinced ourselves that it is for a different time and place, or for someone else, just not me. But I tell you, are you saved, do you belong to the body of Christ. Well then this is for you. Maybe you have not experienced it. But it is like it says in the bible.

Luke 16:10 Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.

Our Authority is based solely on our relationship with Jesus

- That is why we must maintain that relationship.
- Apart from Christ we are nothing.
- Sons of Sceva (Acts 19)
- No relationship with Jesus
- No authority to use His name
- Got their tails kicked

So what happened to the keys – don't we believe in them anymore?

Of course we believe in them, but is like the power of testimony. We need to have an experience to be convinced - just like Thomas needed when Jesus rose from the dead. And by his mercy he will give experiences to us to increase our faith because, remember he is the restorer and finisher of our faith. He will not leave us, as long as we keep seeking His face, knocking on His door, He will keep on helping us on our journey in any way needed.

Unified prayer

Looking into the grammar in the bible reference I started out with in Mathew 16:19

So He transferred the power to the church through Peter. And we as a church need to exercise that faith. Continually asking Him where to go, what to pray for, who to pray for what to bind what to loosen, please Lord give me miracles, not only for my sake but to glorify Your name.

Hallelujah. It says in the bible everything you agree upon it shall be given to you and remember what it says, one beats a thousand and two beats 10 thousand. How much power will we as a church have if we unite our prayers and spiritual desires towards the same goal. I can give you some examples.

For example, in our house group we get lots of prayer answered. But we also pray for people's salvation and new saved people into our group. So we all pray for our own, neighbours, friends and family. What if we all started praying for one specific person at the time. Lifting only one person at the time up to the lord and keep praying until we receive an answer.

With the keys we have we could sort of lock them up in a salvation cell and pray for them until their time is up. Maybe this will give us more authority and answered prayers.

The Holy spirit in the Churches

In churches around the world today it is sad to say that many of the churches will just keep on going even if the holy Spirit withdrew his presence and that is so disturbing to think about. So it is just activities and not a true worship of the father.

Only through a relationship with the Lord where we talk, He listens, we listen, He talks. Will we be able to understand more of His will and how to use this authority to His glory. Not to show off our own powers or abilities, but to point to the source, our Father in heaven.

Temptations

Just a quick reminder of **Mathew Chap 12**: How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. This is exactly what happens when we tear people out of the grips of evil. We need to bind the strongman before we steal back the children of God.

To take over a house you first have to bind the strongman living there.

Do not give away the birthright you have to the kingdom of heaven. Exercising this godly authority is a given right to God's children to us, but sometimes we can be tempted to give our rights away. This birthright gives you right to several things. Be not fooled my friends and be careful not to trade this against the temptations of the world. I am telling you it is not worth it. No matter how good the earthly things can make you feel it is just gold dust- compared to the riches that is awaiting for you in heaven.