

# KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

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## I. INTRODUCTION

- A. **Mat. 16:13-19:** <sup>13</sup>*When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”* <sup>14</sup>*They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”* <sup>15</sup>*“But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?”* <sup>16</sup>*Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”* <sup>17</sup>*Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by My Father in heaven.”* <sup>18</sup>*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My CHURCH, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.* <sup>19</sup>***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.***
- B. **Mat. 18:15-20** [Jesus is speaking to His disciples (see v.1)]: <sup>15</sup>*“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.”* <sup>16</sup>*But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’* <sup>17</sup>*If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the CHURCH; and if he refuses to listen even to the CHURCH, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.* <sup>18</sup>***I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*** <sup>19</sup>*“Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven.”* <sup>20</sup>*For where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them.”*

## II. WHAT ARE THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM?

- A. Keys represent authority and they do 2 things—they open/unlock or close/lock doors; Jesus referred to this as “loosing” and “binding”
- B. Jesus *has* keys to give:
1. **Rev. 1:18:** *I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the **keys of death and Hades.***

2. **Rev. 3:7:** *To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the **key of David**. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open.*
- C. Interestingly, the only 2 times “church” is mentioned in the 4 gospels, it also talks about binding and loosing!
- D. Is there anything in heaven that needs to be bound or loosed?
- E. **Mat. 16:19:** *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.*
  1. v.19 (AMP): *I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be **what is already bound in heaven**; and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be **what is already loosed in heaven**. [Isa. 22:22.]*
  2. v.19 (RVA-2015): *A ti te daré las llaves del reino de los cielos. Todo lo que ates en la tierra **habrá sido atado en el cielo**, y lo que desates en la tierra **habrá sido desatado en los cielos**.*
- F. **Mat. 18:18:** *I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. [NOTE: Jesus spoke this to ALL the disciples, not just Peter.]*
  1. v.18 (AMP): *Truly I tell you, whatever you **forbid** and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be **what is already forbidden in heaven**, and whatever you **permit** and declare proper and lawful on earth must be **what is already permitted in heaven**.*
  2. v.18 (RVA-2015): *De cierto les digo que todo lo que aten [plural] en la tierra **habrá sido atado en el cielo**, y todo lo que desaten [plural] en la tierra **habrá sido desatado en el cielo**.*
- G. Binding and loosing speaks of prayer (**Mat. 6:9-10**): <sup>9</sup>*This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, <sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come, Your will be done **on earth as it is in heaven**.*

1. God has given us authority (keys) in prayer to enforce/bring to reality here on earth what is already in heaven
2. NOTE: Mat. 18:19-20 goes on to speak of agreeing in prayer “on earth” and it will be done by the Father “in heaven”
3. God has delegated responsibility *to us* to bind (tie up, imprison) whatever is improper or unlawful on the earth; we should thus be binding all of the following:
  - a) rebellion, lawlessness, pride, idolatry—sin
  - b) sickness & disease
  - c) demonic activity & oppression [see Mat. 12:28-29 – first bind the strong man]
  - d) deception, lies, darkness, spiritual blindness
  - e) anything contrary to the will of God
4. God has also delegated responsibility *to us* to loose the Kingdom of heaven and declare what is lawful here on earth; we should thus be bringing to earth the following:
  - a) righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom. 14:17)
  - b) the power of God and a demonstration of the Spirit with signs and wonders (1 Cor. 2:4-5; 4:20)
  - c) deliverance, freedom and liberty (2 Cor. 3:17; Mat. 12:28; Luke 13:10-17; Acts 10:38)
  - d) clear proclamations of what is right and wrong (God’s Kingdom Law)

#### H. Examples

1. **1 Tim. 2:1-5:** *<sup>1</sup>I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—<sup>2</sup>for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus...*
  - a) v.2 (AMP): *For kings and all who are in positions of authority or high responsibility, that [outwardly] we*

*may pass a quiet and **undisturbed** life [and inwardly] a peaceable one in all **godliness** and **reverence** and seriousness in every way.*

b) v.2 (TLA - Traducción en lenguaje actual):  
*Recomiendo que se ore por los gobernantes y por todas las autoridades, para que podamos vivir en paz y tranquilos, **obedeciendo a Dios** y llevándonos bien con los demás.*

c) We must bind authorities that are crooked & unlawful who disturb/disrupt the peace and godly/holy life that God called the Church to; pray that God would expose their lies & secret lawlessness and overturn their immoral laws that are contrary to obedience to God's Word

2. **2 Cor. 10:3-6:** <sup>3</sup>*For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup>The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup>We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. <sup>6</sup>And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.*

a) we must bind every counsel, doctrine or philosophy which exalts itself against the knowledge of God

b) we must loose truth, sound doctrine, and the preaching of the Gospel

3. **2 Thess. 2:1-8:** <sup>1</sup>*Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to Him, we ask you, brothers, <sup>2</sup>not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. <sup>3</sup>Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. <sup>4</sup>He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. <sup>5</sup>Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? <sup>6</sup>And now **you know what is holding him back**, so*

*that he may be revealed at the proper time. <sup>7</sup>For the **secret power of lawlessness** is already at work; but **the One who now holds it back will continue to do so till He is taken out of the way.** <sup>8</sup>And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of His mouth and destroy by the splendor of His coming.*

- a) the Holy Spirit through the Church is now restraining the spirit of antichrist and the secret power of lawlessness
- b) we must steadfastly resist the devil and all the power of darkness in these last days so that the only way the antichrist can be fully manifested is for the Spirit and the Bride to be removed!

### **III. CONCLUSION**

- A. Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth and now commissions us as His ambassadors of Christ (Mat. 28:18-20)
- B. God has given us authority on earth to be the enforcers of His Kingdom (Mat. 10:1, 7-8; Luke 9:1-2; 10:17-20)
- C. He has delegated responsibility to us as His representative and co-regents in the earth to use the keys of the Kingdom to bind and loose, bringing the Kingdom and will of God to earth as it already is in heaven