

PRINCIPLES OF GOD'S KINGDOM - Part 5 By Terri Hill

The KEYS of the Kingdom are given to every believer. Every member of the Church has been given "keys" to successful living in God's Kingdom because of what Jesus has done for us; Matthew 16:19; Revelation 1:18; 3:7; 9:1; 20:1; Isaiah 22:22. We go THROUGH JESUS to find the abundant life. He is the DOOR for the sheep; the DOOR to the Father; the DOOR to eternal life; John 10:1-10; 14:6.

KEY - Webster's definition:

- is an instrument for moving the bolt of a lock, and thus locking or unlocking something; something regarding that which is like a key in opening or closing a way, revealing or concealing; specifically a place so located as to give access to or control of a region. Your "keys" open the door by faith through the power of the Holy Spirit. The "key of knowledge" is the revealed will of God, opening up the way to His abundance.

The religious system is charged with "shutting up the Kingdom of heaven against men"; Matt. 23:13-33. The Pharisees (doctors of the law) are described as those who "take away the key of knowledge", the spiritual light of God's revealed Word; Luke 11:52. They substitute dead traditions and rituals for revelation knowledge.

Matthew 16:18 records "Upon this rock (the principle of revelation knowledge by the Spirit) I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it". The religious spirit is a "gate of hell". It does not liberate; on the contrary, it ties up heavy loads and lays them on men's shoulders; Matt. 23:4.

A GATE is a seat of power. It can be occupied by godly or wicked influences. Here are some facts about "gates":

1. A gate is a place of access; Neh. 7:3; Rev. 21:21,25.
2. A gate is where decisions are made; Ruth 4:1-10.
3. A gate is a place of public assembly; Est. 2:19-21.
4. A gate is a place of convergence; Neh. 8:1.
5. A gate is a place of strategic significance; Est. 4:1-2; 5:1.
6. A gate is a place of observation; 2 Sam. 18:26.
7. A gate is a place for particular activities; Neh. 2:13-14.
8. A gate is a field of influence; Gen. 19:1.
9. A gate is a place where transactions and proclamations are made; 1 Kings 22:10.
10. A gate is a place of worship; Ps. 100:4; 1 Chron. 9:33.

The Church has been given the keys which unlock spiritual gates, and the treasures of heaven; (see Rev. 3:7-8; Is. 22:20-25). The key of "David" (BELOVED one) speaks of the fact that Love (the Person of Jesus) has taken complete dominion; there is "an open door". He has the "keys of hell and death" Rev. 1:18.

KEYS give access to GATES, to entrances and to God's promises. Keys represent God's delegated authority to the Church. God wants us to know what those "keys" are and how to use them. These are some of the keys, the ways that His enemies are made His footstool; Heb. 10:12-13.

1. Understanding my inheritance in Christ as God's son is a key; I am a joint heir with Christ; Rom. 8:17; Gal. 3:29.
2. Having the mind of Christ is a key, which comes by renewing my mind; Rom. 12:2.
3. Being continually filled with the Spirit is a key; Eph. 5:18; Acts 1:8.
4. The "fear of the Lord" in my life is a key; Prov.9:10. Definition: "a reverential awe of God, a wholesome dread of not wanting to ever displease my Heavenly Father".
5. Prayer and fasting is a key, which includes "Binding and Loosing". This releases prisoners and captives; Matthew 16:17-19; 18:18-19; Eph. 6:18.
bind - Greek word means to restrain, hold, tie down
loose - Greek word means to loosen, break up, dissolve
6. Worship in spirit and in truth is a key; Ps.149; John 4:23-24.
7. Obedience to the revealed will of God is a key; Gen. 22:15-18; Heb. 11:8.