

Binding, Loosing and Receiving

Matthew 16: 19

I will give unto thee The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and whatsoever thou shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven and whatsoever thou shall loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven.

Jesus spoke of the pleasure of God in giving the Kingdom and taught His followers to expect the Kingdom and to pray for it to come with power and glory. He spoke of building His Church upon a sure foundation; a Rock, a Cornerstone. Not on sand where time and the elements could erode. The Church of Christ was the same as the Kingdom of Heaven just as the Church of Moses was the Kingdom of God in the wilderness.

God had given those who followed Moses access and responsibility for that Church and Kingdom. Now God would give those who followed Christ access and responsibility for Christ's Church and Kingdom.

God had built a Church and Kingdom with those liberated from bondage to Pharaoh in Egypt. Now Jesus will build a Church and Kingdom with those that He liberates from bondage to death in Adam.

The Keys mentioned in this text are given in conjunction with the ability to loose and bind which is mentioned again in Matthew 18:18 in regards to the Church rule. Loosing and binding is mentioned again in John 20:23 in regards to the commission of the Church and Receiving of the Holy Ghost.

I believe these Keys are the Word and Spirit of God which is the inheritance of the Saints, making God present in the Church, available with guidance, wisdom and power just as in the days of old. A co-regent throne where God reigns with His people.

Church tradition has given these texts a variety of meaning and significance in modern times.

Church Keys

The Catholic Church began to use this text as Apostolic power to forgive sin. When the Pope became Heir to Apostleship he naturally was also heir to this power. The Catholic Church has used this power to bind and loose sinners from the Church and Kingdom of God. The Catholic Church has used this power to bind and loose sinners from the Church and Kingdom of God.

The Keys to the Kingdom would be the power to control the entrance where people sought to enter. This was given to St. Peter at the Golden Gate in Church legend.

We also see sin as the hindrance because no sin can enter. Therefore St. Peter maintains vigilance over the entrance. We also see bargaining at the gate and desperate people seeking entrance after death to avoid hell.

This is a Dilemma from Church tradition which has its source in the power given to the Disciples when they are Sent and Commissioned with the Holy Ghost.

Notice: That the power to forgive sin is connected to the power to do miracles. And both are connected to the power of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, if the Disciples received the Holy Ghost they likewise would receive the Life of the Spirit as well as the Power of the Spirit.

Any Servant or Deputy or sent one must be also given ability unless of course he already has it. Now in the case of God sending Jesus the power was given but Jesus had to provide obedience (or Faith.) In the case of Jesus sending the Church, power was given but the Church must provide the Faith. In Matthew nine Jesus had the power to heal but not because Jesus was God rather because Jesus was a servant sent by God, just like Moses and all the Prophets. But when Jesus healed the man Jesus declared his sins forgiven. This obviously connects the forgiveness of sins with the power to heal and it caused a controversy.

The text plainly states that Sin had nothing to do with the disease and nothing to do with the healing. Jesus had purposely spoken of The Forgiveness of Sins in order for others to know that He had the power.

They would obviously know that He had Healing Power when He healed but Jesus was a Prophet sent from God to His people seeking reconciliation. Healing was not His objective, rather faith in Him as sent by God. The people already had faith in God—but to receive His message, they must have faith in Him.

The Abomination which makes desolate is sin and the desolation is separation. John the Baptist was the

God, they have no written law from God. They are blind to the love of God and the Law of God. They have no knowledge of the God of the Jews at all, and they are not responsible to the God of Israel until they hear from Him.

The Prophets to both Kingdoms spoke for God to the people calling on the adulterous people to repent and return. Though your sins be as scarlet they can be forgiven - if my people will confess and return. (II Chron. 7: 14)

Sin is the problem and Sin is the cause of the separation but sin will cease to be a problem when it is confessed and turned from. Likewise unbelief will cease when faith appears.

Some of the Prophets which God sent to His people had power to do miracles but all had the power to forgive sin because that was their commission. Get the people to agree and return to a walk of faith.

This is why Jesus identified Forgiveness of sins with healing. He must get the people to believe that God had sent Him if He was to speak for God to the people as all the Prophets had done.

Since the Jewish people required a sign as evidence that one was a God sent Prophet, Jesus accommodated this expectation with signs and wonders.

The work of Jesus as Prophet to His own people was identical to that of all the previous prophets since Samuel. He must obtain A Confession of Culpability. A confession of the same adulterous sin which their forefathers would not confess.

God had commissioned all the prophets since Samuel with His words to people which if believed would call for response accordingly. The prophets from Moses to Samuel ruled in The Kingdom for God. The prophets from Samuel to the earthly Jesus were servants to the people of that Kingdom.

The historical Christmas Jesus in the flesh was a prophet sent by the God of Israel to the people of Israel. But, the resurrected Easter Jesus in the Spirit was a King sending ambassadors to the world beginning with Judea.

Jesus in the flesh had been a prophet like Moses

understand and believe in what God had sent Him to do. He was not even requiring that Jews believe that He was the Messiah; only believe that He was of God which of course would result in conclusion at some point that He must be the Messiah, a future King..

Jesus explained that everything He said was true and were the words of His Father which had been spoken before by the prophets.

If you don't believe the Word of God spoken by the Prophets, or by me, just believe the works that I do. When He said this He was referring to the miracles, not His redemptive work at Calvary.

Conclusion

I believe that the Church which Jesus built has succeeded Him to represent Him. Paul said that He spoke in Jesus stead to the whole world to be reconciled. Jesus was the light of God to the world. Now the Church is that light. Jesus was the only begotten Son of God now the Church is filled with many begotten sons and daughters who represent Him to the world just as he had represented God to the nation.

Jesus has given the Power of Attorney to His Church to speak and act as an agent on His behalf. To receive this power it must receive the Holy Ghost and when it receives the Holy Ghost it becomes a tenant of the Lordship of Christ. What a Responsibility!!!

I believe that Jesus gave His Church jurisdiction over Kingdom matters just as Moses had done. The Jewish Church could only loose and bind within the Kingdom and forgive sins within. Likewise the Christian Church had the same power with the jurisdiction within the Kingdom not among those outside the Church Kingdom.

The Apostles had no jurisdiction over the sin of those outside the Church. The national sin of unbelief kept people from entering The Kingdom of Jesus, not their many personal sins.

Faith, not forgiveness would take away this sin and open the gates to the Kingdom.

Faith is believing, which obviously takes away all that previously had not been believed before faith