



TEMPLE TALK®



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN:

Matthew 16:19 Unlocking The Power

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. In order to understand the Power we have been granted in this verse we must first attempt to clarify what this verse doesn't mean. This verse is not giving us license to arbitrarily speak things that are not biblical and expect them to work simply because we are the people of God. And neither does it mean that we have been given the authority to place ourselves in violation of God's word. The context of this verse must be examined if the meaning of binding and loosing is to be discovered. In verses 13-15, Jesus inquired of His disciples concerning other's opinions as it pertained to His identity. After a few responses Jesus inquired of the disciples who they thought He was. Simon Peter answered saying, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (v. 16). Jesus responded to Peter's confession by promising him the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Jesus continued to say, "And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (v. 16:19). The authority to bind and loose was inextricably joined with the possession of the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Those keys belonged to the kingdom and allowed entrance into it just as keys belong to a door and allow one to unlock it, thereby allowing entrance into the particular locale. Peter received the keys by believing and confessing Jesus to be the Messiah, the Son of God. "Indeed, the confession of Jesus as the Messiah is the key to entrance into the kingdom." The keys of the kingdom were given to Peter based upon his confession of Jesus to be the Christ. With the keys, Peter then possessed the authority to bind and loose. It would seem likely that all those who confess Jesus to be the Son of God would also be given the same authority since it was predicated on and derivative from the confession of Jesus to be the Son of God. In this instance Peter was the only one given the authority because he was the only one who made the confession. The apparent limitation is expanded in Matthew 18:15-20 where Jesus again gives the authority to bind and loose as it pertains to church discipline. Here Jesus gave this authority to the corporate church, not just Peter, or any other individual. The authority to bind and loose, then, is given to individual believers as well as the corporate church, based upon their confession of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Peter was given the authority to bar entrance into, or allow entrance into the kingdom based upon one's confession of faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Peter did just that throughout his ministry. He allowed entrance into the kingdom to the 3,000 on the Day of Pentecost who believed his message (Acts 2:38-41), and to Cornelius' household because of their faith (Acts 10). Further he barred access into the kingdom to the Jewish leaders (Acts 3) and Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8) because of their unbelief and impure hearts. The phrases "shall be bound in heaven" (estai dedemenon) and "shall be loosed in heaven" (estai lelumenon) are perfect passive participles in the Greek text. The fact that these verbs are passive in voice indicates that those who are indicated by who are to receive the action, not participate in the action. As we shall see momentarily, it is God who delivers the action. Forgiving sin is a divine prerogative of the which man has no part (Psalm 130:3-4; Mark 2:5-12), so Jesus could not have meant here that we arbitrarily forgive the sins of some and not others. Jesus was giving the church the authority to pronounce forgiven those whom the Father had already forgiven in heaven because of their faith in Christ and repentance, and to retain the sins of those whom the Father has retained because of their unbelief and lack of repentance. Again, it is pronouncing in the present the divine initiative from heaven already settled in the past. The authority of the church is not to decide what to do and then have God back up their decision. The authority of the church is to carry out the will and decisions of God upon earth as they have been established in heaven. This is in perfect accord with the way Jesus instructed us to pray: "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). In conclusion, we unlock the power once we have received the keys of the kingdom. And the power that we received was the Gift Of The Holy Ghost! This empowers us to carry out the mandate of God in the earth. The power that we have as believers is to do the will of God!

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR OCTOBER

Praise the Lord to the Miracle Temple Family and the people of God everywhere. I greet you in the Matchless Name of Jesus! Our Spiritual Theme for October 2021 is, "Matters of The Heart." Join us virtually every Wednesday during the month of October for our Bible Study. If you are unable to access the Bible Study during the livestream you may call our conference line at 7:00pm and listen in. (605) 475-3200 access code 943444#

Please like and share the content from Face Book live on your own social media platform so the Word of God may be spread. Feel free to invite a friend or family member to be our guest for our live worship on Sundays as well. Also, did you know that you can donate to our ministry using Cash App? Our information is \$MiracleTempleAPC

Until our next communication,
District Elder T Marc Gandy, Ph.D

October's Birthdays

10/08 Jesse Dean, Jr. 10/17 Carla Kendall
10/20 Prince Smalls

10/05 Corlis and Charles Green, Sr.

10/22 April and Calvin Brown, Sr.



"It's easier to be God's messengers thanks to extended cell phone coverage."



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Here are 3 facts to know about breast cancer:

1. Genetics, lack of physical activity, poor diet, high amounts of smoking/drinking, and obesity are high risk factors of getting breast cancer.
2. It's a disease that can be best treated if detected at an early stage!
3. In addition to self-check care, there are many ways to detect it early: schedule a physician's exam, mammogram, ultrasound, MRI, or a biopsy.

Breast cancer is a disease that affects all of us and we hope this information is helpful.