

# The Keys The Keys

Jesus said, "Thou art Peter, and upon this Rock I will build my church. . . and I will give unto thee the **"Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven."** Matthew 16:17-19

## The Door of salvation is found in the Book of Acts.

1. The gospels prepared the way for the plan of salvation.
2. The epistles teach Christians how to live for God.
3. The Book of Acts is sandwiched in between. It records the birth of the Church on the Day of Pentecost and the preaching and experience of full salvation.

Jesus spent His three and a half years of ministry preparing His disciples to carry the gospel message. In the book of Matthew 16:17-19, He committed the **Keys of the Kingdom** of Heaven to the man, Simon Peter.

It is not strange then, that on the **Day of Pentecost (Acts Chapter 2)** Peter was the man to preach the first message of the church. From a crowd of over three thousand hearers the question resounded to Peter, **"What must we do?"** Having the **Keys of the Kingdom** in his possession, Peter made this simple statement:

- **Repent** and. . .
- **Be baptized** every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and.
- you shall **receive the gift of the Holy Ghost** (Acts 2:38)



Other instances recorded in the Book of Acts consistently show the Apostles declaring these same instructions to those they preached to.

- **Philip, Peter and John to the Samaritans in Acts 8**
- **Ananias to Saul (Paul) Acts 9**
- **Peter used the Keys again when he preached to the Gentiles in Acts chapter 10,** opening salvation's door to them as well with the very same formula: **Repentance, water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ,** and receiving **the gift of the Holy Ghost.**
- **Paul to the Philippian jailor (Acts 16)** and to disciples of John the Baptist (Acts 19).

**True Pentecostals preach the exact salvation message as was preached by the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost.**

# The New Birth

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Jesus told Nicodemus "You must be **born again** of the **water** and the **Spirit**." (John 3:5)

**The Keys** Peter proclaimed include the components, **water** (baptism) and **Spirit**, (Holy Ghost Baptism) confirming that this is the new birth Jesus spoke of.

### The Keys -

- **Repentance,**
- **Baptism,**
- **Gift of Holy Ghost**

**Are a symbol of Christ's Death, Burial and Resurrection.**

**The plan of salvation is a spiritual type of the finished work of Jesus Christ.**

- Death  Repentance is a type of Death - or dying to our old nature and lifestyle.
- Burial  Baptism is a burial (Colossians 2:12) "Buried with Him in baptism".
- Resurrection  The Gift of the Holy Ghost is the spiritual equivalent of Resurrection power. "Risen with Him" (Colossians 2:12)

This New Testament plan of salvation has never changed since the Day of Pentecost. "**This Promise is unto. . .all who are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**" It still consists of repentance from sins, water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

These steps of obedience are still the. . .

# Keys to the Kingdom

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