

Revealed Knowledge Pt 3

Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

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Scripture Study

As a young boy growing up I remember spending time playing at my grandparents farm. There were always many places and things to investigate. In the old turn of the century farm house where my Grandparents lived there was a narrow stairway enclosed behind what looked like a closet door. This stairway led to a third floor attic that was filled with old trunks and antique furniture. It seemed no matter how long you explored there was always something else to discover. In that day they had big heavy steel keys that we called skeleton keys. Every so often I would discover one of these old keys, it was like finding a treasure map. The key brought with it a mystery. What does this fit? What new discovery might be made? The possessor holds the answer to unlock or lock whatever the key fits. Jesus taught about keys and said that He has given us the keys of the kingdom. In this study we are going to find out what these keys are and what they will lock or unlock.

Matthew 16:13-19

13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

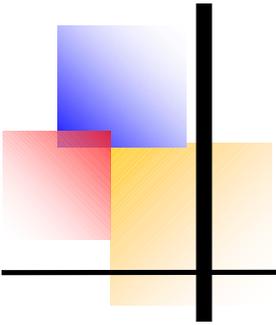
16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

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. (KJV)

18 And I tell you, you are Peter [Greek, Petros- a large piece of a rock], and on this rock [Greek, petra - a huge rock like Gibraltar] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades (the powers of the infernal region) shall not overpower it [or be strong to its detriment or hold out against it]. (AMP)



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- ✚ The English translations of these verses fall short of what the Greek reader hears when they read them. Unless we dig into this deeper we miss the entire meaning of what Jesus was really saying. Jesus asked them Who they thought He was and Simon Barjona answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied by saying "you are blessed Simon Barjona because you didn't receive this knowledge through flesh and blood, but the Father revealed it to you." Jesus then called him Petros which English speaking people have translated into Peter. Notice, Jesus first called him Simon Barjona, that was his name. The Greek word Petros means a piece of a rock. What Jesus was literally saying was, this has made you firm or solid, and because of this you have become a stone [rock]. They could have translated his name Rocky instead of Peter.

John 20:24-29

24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"

27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

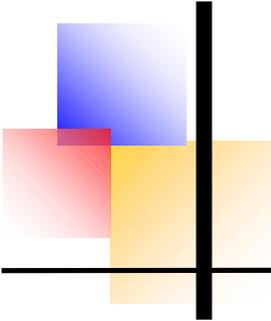
28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (NKJV)

- ✚ Peter believed the knowledge he received by revelation from the Father. Thomas through an act of his will refused to believe unless first he could see it and feel it. Thomas reduced revelation truth to logic, he judged truth by what his five physical senses told him. Jesus called him faithless. When we do this we are exalting our flesh above the Word. The disciples told Thomas that they saw the Lord and for 8 days he refused to believe. The rest of the disciples were being blessed knowing Jesus had risen. However, Thomas wasn't being blessed because of his stubborn refusal to believe. Notice that Jesus said blessed are they that have believed without seeing. Blessed is the one that will believe God's Word as revealed by the Father without first having to see it or feel it.

Revelation 1:18

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. (KJV)



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- ✠ Here we see that Jesus holds the keys of hell and death. God isn't locking doors on us, He takes great pleasure in giving us the kingdom. He has already given us the best He has to offer which is Jesus. We are an heir of God and joint heirs with Jesus. All that the Father has is ours. It is death and hell that is trying to lock gates against us. Jesus preached that hell's gates would not prevail against the church.

Matthew 16:17-18

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter [Petros], and upon this rock [petra] I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

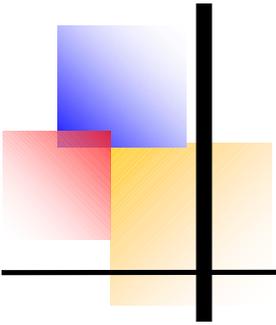
- ✠ At first it sounds like Jesus is saying that He is going to build the Church on Peter. Jesus didn't say upon Simon Barjona I will build my Church. Jesus was talking about the revealed knowledge that Simon Barjona received from the Father. Jesus said to Simon Barjona "this knowledge that was revealed to you from the Father has made you Petros [stone]" Jesus went on to say "I am going to build my Church on petra [a huge rock like Gibraltar]." This huge rock is the revelation of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the chief cornerstone and the Church is built on the revelation of Him. Jesus doesn't become a cornerstone to you personally until He is revealed to you through revelation received from the Father. The gates of hell and death cannot prevail against this huge boulder. "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" (Col 1:27)

Matthew 7:24-25

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. (NIV)

- ✠ If you build your house [life] on rock [knowledge revealed by the Father] the gates of hell [storms of life] will not prevail against you. When you receive revelation from the Father as did Peter it makes you firm the same as it did him. It is the revelation of the truth [word] that the gates of hell cannot prevail against.



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1 Peter 2:4-9

4 As you come to him, the living Stone-- rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him--

5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,"

8 and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message-- which is also what they were destined for.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (NIV)

✠ Here we confirm again what Jesus was teaching in Matthew. We are built into a spiritual house each of us being a living stone, made firm through receiving the revelation that Jesus is the Christ. Jesus Himself is the cornerstone [massive boulder] laid in Zion [Church] that the gates of hell cannot prevail against.

Luke 20:17-18

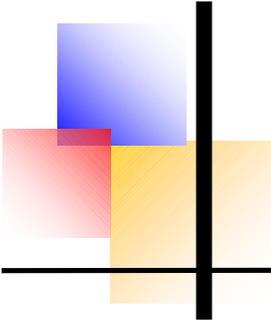
17 Then He looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone'?"

18 Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder." (NKJV)

✠ Jesus is clearly establishing that He has become the cornerstone that the religious order rejected. He gave some valuable advice in verse 18. It is better to fall upon the Stone [Jesus] and be broken than to let the Stone fall on you and crush you. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord. Bow your knee willingly out of love and respect. The rebellious and Godless will have a sword used to force them to their knees. On the day of judgment the Stone will grind them to dust.

Romans 9:33

As it is written: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, and whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." (NKJV)



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2 Peter 1:16-21

16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: (KJV)

19 And we have the prophetic word [made] firmer still. You will do well to pay close attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dismal (squalid and dark) place, until the day breaks through [the gloom] and the Morning Star rises (comes into being) in your hearts. (AMP)

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (KJV)

✠ The light of the prophetic Word will continue to make you firmer still [a living stone]. Peter exhorts us to put the Word first in our lives, above even the audible voice of God. It is a combination of the Word and the Spirit that reveals the prophetic revelation found in the Word. A lot of churches try to build on the Word without the Spirit and yet others try to build on the Spirit without the Word. It takes both to build a church that the gates of hell cannot prevail against.

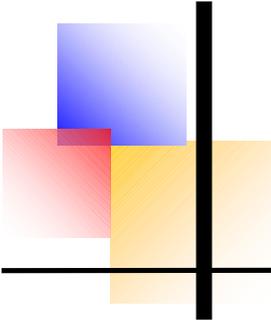
2 Peter 1:2-4

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (KJV)

✠ Grace and peace is multiplied to you through revealed knowledge, not learned knowledge or human logic. I pray that every believer will receive a revelation of His unlimited grace. The revelation of grace is a huge key that will unlock many of hell's gates. This one revelation would change the entire body of Christ. Meditate on verse 3 and 4, they are full of His grace. It is His grace that gives us access to His divine



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† power and to all things that pertain to life and godliness. The last time I checked "all" still meant "all." In verse 3 we see that all His power and provision comes through that revealed knowledge of Him [Jesus]. Jesus said. "You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life." The entire church is built on the revelation of Jesus. He is the one that gave the precious promises which are the keys that unlock the doors of provision. When Hell tries to put a locked gate in your way to stop you from receiving His grace take one of the precious promises and unlock the gate. If you need to escape corruption whether it is spiritual, moral, financial, physical or social there is grace [divine ability] sufficient through His exceeding great and precious promises to bring total deliverance. Grace is much more than just putting up with something, grace is unlimited abundant supply of power and ability to break-down any gate of hell.

Matthew 16:19

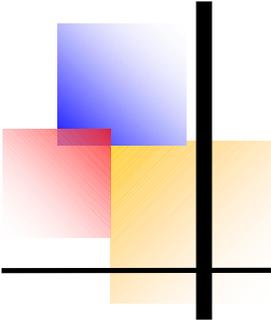
And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (KJV)

† Remember Jesus concluded what He was teaching the disciples about knowledge revealed from the Father with this statement in verse 19. Each revelation you receive becomes a key that will unlock or lock a gate of hell. Hell doesn't have a gate that heaven doesn't have a key to. Jesus has all (and I do mean all) the keys of hell and death. Keys give access and they also bring authority to the one that is holding the key.

Mark 4:17

But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. (NIV)

† In the parable of the sower Jesus clearly taught that the devil would come to try and steal the Word that was sown in your heart. Here is the process. The Father gives us an exceeding great and precious promise which is a key [revelation] that will unlock a gate of hell and open God's provision to us. The devil sees this happening and he comes immediately to try and take the Word out through trouble and/or persecution. The Word doesn't become a threat to hell's gates until it is revealed. When it is revealed it makes you a living stone, it makes you firm. There is an example of this happening to Paul.



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2 Corinthians 12:1-6

1 It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

5 Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.

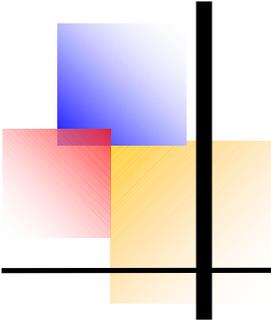
6 For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me. (KJV)

✠ In the previous chapter Paul made this statement "I repeat: Let no one take me for a fool. But if you do, then receive me just as you would a fool, so that I may do a little boasting. In this self-confident boasting I am not talking as the Lord would, but as a fool. Since many are boasting in the way the world does, I too will boast." He then went on to share how he had been stoned, beat, shipwrecked, persecuted, gone without sleep and food and how he had daily responsibilities concerning the churches. Then in Chapter 12 he said there is nothing to be gained by this boasting but I am going to continue to talk about the visions and revelations that I have received. He tells about being taken up into the third heaven [where God dwells] and heard utterances beyond the power of man to put into words, things man is not permitted to utter. Paul said even though I would be speaking the truth it would be bragging to continue. He didn't want anyone to think of him more highly than they ought to. He then turned to his weakness and the grace of God.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

✠ These verses have become a sacred cow in many circles. Lets get some barbecue sauce and kill the cow. Paul said because of the abundance of revelation Satan sent a messenger [angel] to harass and buffet [rap with a fist] me. Remember what Jesus taught in the parable of the sower? When the Word [revelation] is sown Satan comes to take out the revelation through affliction and persecution. God wasn't against Paul being exalted, but the devil was. Jesus taught in many places that "whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Peter wrote this. "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." What God is against is your flesh being exalted and you exalting yourself. When we truly humble ourselves, God through His grace will exalt His Word and His Spirit in us.



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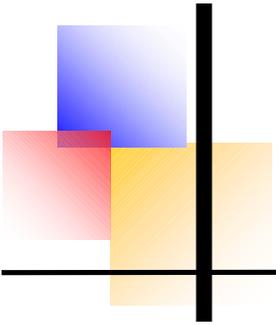
‡ God was exalting Paul through the abundance of revelation and Satan was opposing the revelation by sending a messenger [angel] to stir up trouble everywhere Paul went to preach. Satan was attacking Paul in his human frailty [flesh nature]. I always find it amusing when the devil attacks a new believer and how they take hold of this verse and compare themselves to Paul. They say "God has given me a thorn in the flesh to teach me something." Yet they never seem to know what it is that they are suppose to be learning. It was Satan that sent the messenger not God. It was the messenger that became the thorn in Paul's flesh, not sickness. Paul had more revelation than any man on earth at the time. Peter wrote and said that Paul's writings were hard to understand, but they are scripture. Is it any wonder Satan pushed so hard on Paul, he tried everything he could to get the revelation out of Paul and to keep Paul from spreading the revelation throughout the entire earth.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong. (KJV)

‡ The first thing the Lord did was remind Paul that there is grace available and sufficient for any need. This was not a negative answer. God didn't say His grace was insufficient. If asked, could you give a Bible definition of grace based on revelation of the Word of God? Paul had a revelation of grace [God's ability] and the unlimited power and resources that are available to those who are partakers of His grace. The Lord didn't say no to Paul. The Lord told Paul, stop depending on your ability and draw on my ability [grace]. You can see the light coming to Paul in the second half of verse nine. He was probably remembering when he wrote, I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me, and we are more that conquers through Him. He was getting excited about being weak in himself [flesh nature] because he was about to see God's ability [grace]. Paul put to the extreme test all the revelation that he received during his time with God in the wilderness. Paul was rejoicing in his weakness or human insufficiency knowing that the weaker or less capable he was in himself the greater the grace [God's ability] would be upon him. To be strong in the Lord and the power of His might requires us to be weak in ourselves. The more we learn to get out of our own abilities and learn to live in God's abilities the more we are walking in God's grace.



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Study Questions

1. What is the definition and the English translation of the Greek word Petros?
2. Why did Jesus call Simon Barjona blessed?
3. T or F. The revelation of Jesus is the revelation the Church is built upon.
4. T or F. Each promise when revealed by the Father becomes a key that will lock or unlock one of hell's gates.
5. Expound on 2 Peter 1:2-4.
6. What was Paul's thorn in the flesh?
7. Explain what it means to walk in God's Grace.
8. What did God reveal to you as you studied?

Extra Blessing

(Study To Show Yourself Approved Unto God 2 Timothy 2:15)

Ezekiel saw that God was planning to change man's heart, and live in us, and wash us with the water of the Word

[Ezekiel 11:19,20](#) [Ezekiel 36:25-27](#) [Ephesians 5:25-27](#)