

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1394

October 31, 2021

Luke 11:52, *“Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.”*

Keys are used to open something. You probably have a key ring with you this very moment or close by. On it you might have keys to your house, automobile, a post office box, etc. Keys are vital. They let us into places that we would otherwise not have entrance.

People of yesterday could not imagine some of the keys we have today. Some of them are cards that we scan over a lock. It might even be your cell phone that unlocks something as you near it. Regardless of whatever form it takes, a key grants access.

The above verse refers to the key of knowledge. This key is the knowledge of the God’s word. This key of knowledge grants access to the words of the Bible whereby we can learn how to be saved. It shows us the type of life to live to ever be with the LORD in Heaven after this life.

Not only does the word of God contain this knowledge, it contains

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Sunday 9 AM & 5 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

the dire warnings of what happens if we do not obey the LORD. This knowledge also shows us how to live our lives here. By this knowledge we can make our lives much more comfortable and without turmoil.

The key of knowledge that is the word of God is invaluable, yet this key was being withheld from the people. It was being withheld by the scribes and Pharisees. They were to the common man the most righteous people and keepers of God’s word, but yet they were doing the opposite. By their sins and following their traditions more than God’s word, they had taken away the key of knowledge. They had access to this key, but had actually taken it from others.

I wonder if we sometimes take away the key of knowledge from others. We might not do it as overtly as the scribes and Pharisees, but we can do it in other ways.

We might keep others about us from the key of knowledge by not studying ourselves. By our lack of knowledge, we are not able to help others come to the truth. Perhaps we are in a position to be influential to someone, but our own lack of Biblical knowledge is taking away the key of knowledge from them.

We can take away the key of knowledge from others by our lukewarmness in serving the LORD. Perhaps we only attend when it suits us or “works out.” We might not be giving the way we should. We never pray unless it’s while others pray at worship. Such a half-hearted approach to living for the LORD not only does us no good, but any who look to us are influenced negatively. If young children see such a life, they will very possibly grow up being the same way, and the key of knowledge has been taken away from them.

On a side note, parents do so much to make sure their children have a good education even to the point of paying extra to send them to a special school, etc. They save up for college and do all they can to make sure they obtain worldly knowledge. But in all the efforts to

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News

—Continue to remember **Alice Vanderstoep, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Edwards, Clay Bozarth, Ken & Erin Davis, Sandy Duncan, Becky Hatcher, Joanna Locke & Richard Connolly. Rachel Riffle,** and her

two young children, **Grace** and **A. J.** all have Covid, but are doing much better. **Erin Davis** got good news in that the surgeon feels he can repair the implant that suppresses pain she has been suffering.

—We extend our sympathies to the family of **Jean Coffey** who passed away this past Monday. She is the mother of Mike Burd and grandmother of Chris Burd. ❖ We extend our sympathies to the family of **Kenneth Compton** who passed away October 23. He is the brother of Larry Compton.

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obtain this knowledge of the world, the key of knowledge, the word of God, is being withheld from their children.

There is another key that is missed out on when the key of knowledge is withheld. Jesus said in 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.*”

Not only do keys permit entrance, they can also provide escape. I’m sure we’ve all seen old western movies where the keys to the jail were hanging on a wall just outside a cell. The prisoner works to get the keys and gets free.

Jesus has the keys for us to escape the worst fate imaginable— that of being lost eternally. The keys are not hiding or hanging just out of reach. He has them and is willing to hand the keys to us. It’s not enough to have the keys. We have to use them. We need to obey the LORD and live for Him all of our days. *continued on next page...*

Sunday, October 24, 2021

Classes	5	Matthew 7:21-29
Preaching	9	Hebrews 13:1-8
Contribution	\$765.00	
Evening	6	Genesis 10:1-32

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Classes	6	Psalms 78:49-72
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Bible Quiz

Those who hear the sayings of Jesus and do them is like what?

Last Week’s Answer— Bow (Genesis 9:13)

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Let’s not withhold access to the two vital keys from others or from ourselves. We have access to the key of knowledge to open up the wondrous treasures of the Bible. Jesus is also offering us the keys whereby we can escape hell and death. Take the keys. Use them. They are offered to us to use. —Marty Edwards❖

Revelation 3:7, “*And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth.*”

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)