

Theme: Jesus is the Key of David, Who unlocks the shackles and frees the captives from the dark dungeon of sin, brings us into the light and opens the gates of heaven for us to have eternal fellowship with the Triune God.

## I. Intro and Background

### A. Intro - Prison Ministry

1. The first time I went in I was amazed at the big doors shutting behind me
2. By declaration of a government, a person is put those doors and behind bars
3. If the government orders the doors open, a person can go out or come in
4. If the government orders the doors closed, no one can go out or come in
5. Only the government can set a person free from that prison

### B. Background - Dual Prophecy

<sup>20</sup>"In that day I will summon my servant, Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. <sup>21</sup>I will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash around him and hand your authority over to him. He will be a father to those who live in Jerusalem and to the people of Judah. <sup>22</sup>I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. -- Isaiah 22:20-22

1. Short-term fulfillment is in Eliakim  
Eliakim, the son of Hilkiyah, was the Palace Administrator. The LORD gave him authority to be in charge of the palace.
2. Long-term fulfillment is in Jesus the Messiah

## II. The Key of David

<sup>22</sup> I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. -- Isaiah 22:22

### A. Line of David - The Davidic Covenant

1. God set up the line of David to be kings forever

Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever. -- 2 Samuel 7:16

2. Messiah will be that eternal ruler

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,<sup>h</sup> Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and  
peace

there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne

and over his kingdom,

establishing and upholding it

with justice and righteousness

from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty

will accomplish this. -- Isaiah 9:6-7

3. Jesus is the Messiah (12 examples from Isaiah)

a) 11:1 - He would be a descendant of King David (Matthew 1:1)

- b) 7:13-14 - He would be born of a virgin (Luke 1:35)
- c) 7:14 - He would be called Immanuel (God with us) (Matthew 1:23)
- d) 40:3-4 - He would be preceded by a forerunner (Matthew 3:1-4)
- e) 9:1-2 - He would appear in Galilee, be a light to the Gentiles (Matt 4:12-17)
- f) 35:4-6 - He would perform miracles. (Mark 10:51-52; 7:32-35; Matthew 11:4-5; 12:10-13; 9:32-35)
- g) 42:2-3 - He would be humble, meek. (Matthew 11:28-30)
- h) 50:6-7 - He would be beaten and spat upon. (Matt 26:67; 27:30)
- i) 53:4-6 - He would suffer for the sins of others. (2 Cor 5:21)
- j) 53:8-9 - He would die and be buried in a wealthy man's tomb. (Matt 27:45-61)
- k) 9:6-7 - He would be called God. (John 20:27-29)
- l) 49:6 - He would bring salvation to the ends of the earth. (New Testament, continuing into the present)
- m) There are more in Isaiah, and many more in the Old Testament

#### B. The Key (Isa 22:22)

<sup>22</sup> I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. -- Isaiah 22:22

1. A key is a symbol of authority and power
2. A key is the mark of an office
3. The key would be on His shoulder

The shoulder is where the strength to carry (as in a burden) is (we will come back to this a little later)

### III. Jesus Is the Key of David

<sup>6</sup> "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;

I will take hold of your hand.

I will keep you and will make you

to be a covenant for the people

And a light for the Gentiles,

<sup>7</sup> to open eyes that are blind,

to free captives from prison

and to release from the dungeon those who sit

in darkness. -- Isaiah 42:-7

A. Four things Jesus will do (from Isaiah 42:6-7)

1. Jesus will be the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant (v. 6)
2. Jesus will be a light for the Gentiles (v. 6)
3. Jesus will open the eyes of the blind (v. 7)

4. Jesus will free captives from prison (v. 7)

B. As the Key, Jesus provides Freedom

1. Jesus came to set the captives free

<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,

<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favor --  
Isaiah 61:1-2

a) Prophesied in Isaiah 61:1-2

b) Fulfilled in Luke 4:18-20

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the  
prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

<sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down.<sup>a</sup> The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him.

2. God provided freedom to physical captives several times in the scriptures

a) Israelites delivered from the hand of Pharaoh

<sup>29</sup> But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. <sup>30</sup> That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. <sup>31</sup> And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant. -- Exodus 14:29-31

(1) God told Moses it would happen

<sup>16</sup> “Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. <sup>17</sup> And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—a land flowing with milk and honey. -- Exodus 3:16-17

(2) God reminded the people in the Ten Commandments

<sup>2</sup> “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. -- Exodus 20:2

b) Jews released by Cyrus king of Persia

<sup>22</sup> In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

<sup>23</sup> “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:

“The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the LORD their God be with them.” -- 2 Chronicles 36:22-23

c) Apostles freed from public jail

<sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. <sup>20</sup> “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people all about this new Life.” -- Acts 5:19

d) Peter freed from prison

<sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. -- Ac 12:9

e) Paul and Silas freed from prison

<sup>6</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose.  
-- Ac 16:26

3. Jesus provides freedom to spiritual captives

a) Spiritual Captives

(1) All who sin are slaves to sin

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, “**Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.**”  
-- Jn 8:34

(2) All who follow fleshly desires are captives of the devil to do his will

<sup>26</sup> and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will. -- 2 Tim 2:26

(3) False prophets are slaves of corruption

<sup>19</sup> They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for “people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.” -- 2 Pe 2:19

b) Spiritual Freedom

(1) Jesus came to set spiritual captives free (Isa 61:1-2; Lk 4:18-20)

(2) Jesus has already set spiritual captives free in order to live victoriously

<sup>1</sup> It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. -- Gal 5:1

(3) Whoever Jesus sets free **WILL BE** free

<sup>36</sup> **So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.** -- Jn 8:36

(4) Jesus will set spiritual captives free from sin forever

<sup>4</sup> ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” -- Rev 21:4

<sup>27</sup> Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or

deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. -- Rev 21:27

- (5) Spiritual captivity is dark, and Jesus delivers captives into the light where their eyes are opened

<sup>6</sup> "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;  
I will take hold of your hand.  
I will keep you and will make you  
to be a covenant for the people  
And a light for the Gentiles,

<sup>7</sup> to open eyes that are blind,  
to free captives from prison  
and to release from the dungeon those who sit  
in darkness. -- Isaiah 42:-7

#### C. As the Key, what Jesus opens no one can shut

<sup>22</sup> I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. -- Isaiah 22:22

The government is on His shoulders

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,<sup>h</sup> Prince of Peace.

-- Isaiah 9:6

1. This means He has the strength to bear all government with all authority

2. With all authority He can open any lock In Malcolm Guite's poem, "O Clavis" he states that "every lock must answer to a key"

Even in the darkness where I sit  
And huddle in the midst of misery  
I can remember freedom, but forget  
That every lock must answer to a key,

3. He opens the door to the kingdom of heaven and it cannot be shut

<sup>27</sup> My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one." -- Jn 10:27-30

He authorizes the church to play a role through evangelism, but the church is not the key, Jesus is the Key.

#### D. As the Key, what Jesus shuts no one can open

<sup>22</sup> I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. -- Isaiah 22:22

1. Jesus holds the keys of death and Hades

<sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. -- Rev 1:18

2. Angel has the key to the shaft of the Abyss

<sup>1</sup> The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. -- Rev 9:1

This authority is given by the Lord

### 3. Angel has the key to the Abyss

<sup>1</sup> And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. -- Rev 20:1

### 4. Heaven is shut to all whose names are not in the Book of life, and cannot be opened

<sup>8</sup> All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world. -- Rev 13:8

<sup>4</sup> 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' -- Rev 21:4

<sup>27</sup> Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, But only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of life.

E. The poem, O Clavis, expresses the previous points very well.

## IV. Applying the Word

Do you know the Lord Jesus as your personal Savior?

A. If you do not

1. Today is the day of salvation. Tomorrow is not promised,

2. When a person crosses into death without Jesus, the door is shut and cannot be opened

B. If you are already a disciple ask yourself

1. Am I loving the Lord in my closet daily, and gathering for worship at least weekly?
2. Am I connecting with His people for fellowship and mutual strengthening and encouragement?
3. Am I accountable to a local Body through church membership, and serving His church where I am called to serve?
4. Am I actively participating in reaching the world through evangelism, so that others may join in the great freedom that Jesus the Key of David offers?

Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verse 5)

O come, O Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home.  
Make safe for us the heavenward road  
And bar the way to death's abode.

**Benediction**

**"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Cor. 13:14**