



KEYS TO THE KINGDOM – 8

“KEEPER OF THE KINGDOM”

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John Tulio

THE BELIEVER’S CONNECTING LINK TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS INTIMACY WITH GOD THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

John 3:5-6 Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.” (NLT)

John 20:21-22 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” (NRSV)

WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The three persons of God are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Matt. 28:19 “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” (NLT)

2. The Holy Spirit is a person who has:

a. Emotions (He can feel sorrow)

Eph. 4:30 And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit by the way you live. (NLT)

b. A mind (He can know)

1 Cor. 2:11 Who knows the thoughts that another person has? Only a person’s spirit that lives within him knows his thoughts. It is the same with God. No one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. (NCV)

c. A will (He makes decisions)

1 Cor. 12:11 It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. (NCV)

3. The Holy Spirit is personally involved in the story of God and humankind.

a. He participated in our creation.

Gen. 1:2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. (NLT)

Job 33:4 “The Spirit of God created me, and the breath of the Almighty gave me life.” (NCV)

b. He suffers the pain of humanity’s rebellion.

Isa. 63:10 But they rebelled against him and grieved his Holy Spirit. (NASB)

c. He was involved in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Matt. 1:20 As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit.” (NLT)

Luke 4:14 Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit’s power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region. (NLT)

Acts 10:38 “And no doubt you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were

oppressed by the Devil, for God was with him.” (NLT)

Rom. 8:11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. (NLT)

d. He is involved with humanity’s salvation experience from beginning to end.

Rev. 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” Let anyone who hears this say, “Come.” Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. (NLT)

5. The Holy Spirit is the Divine Agent for fulfilling the New Covenant.

Jer. 31:33-34 “But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day,” says the LORD. “I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘You should know the LORD.’ For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already,” says the LORD. “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.” (NLT)

Ezek. 36:26-27 “And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.” (NLT)

HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT FULFILLS THE NEW COVENANT

1. He convicts sinful man of unbelief.

John 16:8-9 - “He will convict the world of sin . . . because they do not believe in Me.”

2. He enables sinners to understand and experience God’s love.

Eph. 3:16-19 - “You will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ’s love.”

3. He gives believers a new life.

Titus 3:3-5 - “He gives us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.”

4. He joins new believers to the body of Christ.

1 Cor. 12:13 - “By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.”

5. He lives inside believers.

1 Cor. 6:19 - “Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you.”

6. He teaches and guides believers into all truth.

John 14:26 - “He will teach you all things.”

John 16:13 - “He will guide you into all truth.”

7. He transforms believers into Christlikeness.

Gal. 5:22-23 - “He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love.”

8. He gives believers special gifts for ministry.

1 Cor. 12:7,11 - “A spiritual gift is given to each of us.”

9. He empowers believers for sharing the gospel.

Acts 1:8 - “You will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere.”

10. He enables believers to be intimate with God.

John 14:16 - “He will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.”

John 15:4 - “Remain in me, and I will remain in you.”



Key-8: TRUST THE HOLY SPIRIT TO KEEP ME IN GOD’S FAMILY.