

Essay- Ever Lose Your Keys?

Thoughts on Today's Berean

How many times throughout your life have you ever lost or misplaced your keys? They could be your house keys, your car keys, or any other important set required to unlock something we own. I know in my life, I've lost my keys once or twice where the first time I learned how important a second set was to have on hand. This doesn't count the numerous times I've misplaced them. We can all relate to the panic that follows (even more horrific is our cell phones) and the efforts we go through to locate them before we go bananas. Most times they're inconspicuously located in a common place or simply fell out of our pockets and recovered.

In reading Today's Berean (for Friday), I thought about what Solomon was given by God. Solomon asked as a child simply for wisdom (1 Kings 3:5-10). He was humble in spirit in his request and it pleased God. Though he was warned, Solomon began to drift by ignoring God, inappropriate relationships and ultimately worshipping other gods. These things eventually became an idol between him and God.

Essentially, God gives us a tremendous blessing in His Promise of salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ His Son. These gifts are keys in a manner of speaking, keys (His Truth) in His Word that unlocks some of the "mysteries" of life and ultimately opens the Gates to His Kingdom and the gift of Eternal Life within. These keys are a gift that must be kept in our hearts on a keyring of obedience to His Commandments. Once we have been given God's Keys, is it possible to lose them?

We know from scripture that no unclean thing was permitted in God's Earthly House (2 Chr. 23:19), how much more so will this restriction imply upon His Divine Kingdom established by Jesus Christ's return? With this in mind, I began to think about Solomon and his falling away into idolatry. I haven't been able to find where and if Solomon ever repented in the Bible. Does this mean Solomon will be a candidate for the Second Resurrection? An interesting discussion for sure.

If we look at how serious God is about how we handle His Truth, He taught many lessons to the prophets and handing down some severe punishments to “motivate” them to repentance. We know Moses was denied access to the Promised Land and was not permitted to cross the Jordan (Num.20:12), we know of Job (Job 1, 2) and his judgement, Jonah (Jonah 1:17), David (2 Sam. 12:9, 2 Sam. 24), to name a few. How many more can you think of? One common thread among the aforementioned is that they all repented. We see the results of repentance in the New Testament as well with Saul’s journey on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6).

What a Loving God we serve. He loves us so much He sent us His only son (John 3:16). Jesus gave us an example that we, like the Apostles should follow. It is His desire that none of His created beings should perish- “The Lord is not slack in His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all come to repentance. But the day of The Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,”- 2 Peter 3:9-11. He makes it quite clear of how we are to preserve ourselves in His Ways (continuing in 2 Peter 3:14-18).

Losing “our keys” these days seems to be getting easier. Much like Solomon, distraction can lead us away from God’s Truth and keeping ALL of His Commandments. Just a little leaven...If we break one, we’ve broken them all and receive the consequences that follow (Lev. 26:15-17, Matt. 5:19). Loving God first, more than ourselves or the many things that can come between Him, His Ways and us (Deut. 6:5, 7:9, 11:13, Jos. 23:11, Psalm 18:1, Matt. 22:37, Mark 12:30) is a great way to keep “our keys” locked safely in our hearts.

Keep God’s “keys to His Kingdom” deep and secure in our hearts by obeying all of His Commandments so that there will be no question whether or not we will be granted access into His Kingdom. We know the rewards that await us (Matt. 25:23, Rev. 1:5-6, 5:10).

You won't lose these keys by a hole in your pocket, only through a hole in your heart can they be lost. So, if you've ever had the feeling of panic over losing or misplacing your keys, imagine the scramble you'll have if you've lost them when the trumpet sounds and the sky cracks. There won't be time to call a locksmith, you won't be able to "jimmy" the lock and it will be too late to look under the couch.

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