

**Scripture:** Acts 13:13-52

Lord's Day 31.83-84 #2

**Singing:** 428:1-2 – 395:1-4 – 390:1-3 – 267:1-4

**THE KEYS OF GOD'S KINGDOM (2)**

I. Who owns these keys? II. Who are called to use these keys?

III. How are these keys to be used?

**III. How are the key of *preaching of the Gospel* to be used?**

A. The apostle's example (Acts 13) is our direction

B. Paul first **opened access to King and all His benefits to all** (vs. 38)

1. To whom did Paul preach the *immediate and complete pardon of sins*?

2. Undoubtedly it was as hard to believe then as it is now

C. Paul secondly **opened the treasures of covenant of grace to believers** (39)

1. Paul proclaims (declares) the forgiveness of sins *in Name of God*

2. This 'key' every ordained preacher is authorized to use (Acts 10:43;  
John 20: 23; Matt 16:19; 18; Acts 26:16-18)

3. But it opened only to *all and every believer in God and His Son Jesus* (39)

D. Paul thirdly **closed the 'kingdom blessings' from unbelievers**

1. It began with a severe warning about being locked out: vs. 40-41, 45

2. Ended with a 'condemning declaration to all unbelievers' (vs. 46 & 51!)

a. Notice where these *ungodly people* were found? (vs. 44)

3. God's sentence to all *unconverted* is solemn: Is. 3:11; John 3:18b; 3:36b

a. to be *unconverted* is to be disobedient to God's command: Acts 3:19

b. stop soothing your sleepy conscience with *fantasy thinking*

**Conclude:** God's market of free grace has a closing date (Is. 55:6; 1 Cor. 15:24)

A. Today God's ambassadors still implore you (2 Cor. 5:20); *but what if you receive God's grace in vain?* (2 Cor. 6:1)

B. How will God judge the unconverted **in this life already?**

1. He will abandon you to yourself: Acts 13:40-41 - Matt. 13:14-15

C. How will God judge this **in the life to come?**

1. He will reveal His long-held-back anger (Rev. 6:16-17; Rom. 2:5-11)

D. We all stand before the same judgment seat: 2 Cor. 5:10

1. Many witnesses will condemn you: John 5:45; Luke 17:31; Heb. 13:17

2. But one witness will be the worst: Rev. 1:5

E. Time is (very) short and your Judge stands before your door also (James 5:9)

1. Hasten while He tarries in His longsuffering: 2 Peter 3:9

2. Doubt not that He *whom ye have slain with unbelief* is still ready today to *give you a new beginning: **for there is forgiveness with Him!***

**Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and for ever (Heb. 13:8)**

The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree,

Him hath God exalted with His right hand,

to be a Prince and a Savior,

for to give repentance to Israel,

and forgiveness of sins.

And we are His witnesses of these things;

And so is also the Holy Ghost,

Whom God hath given to them that obey Him.

Acts 5:30-32