

He Has the Keys of Death and of Hades

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"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, **I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last**; and, what you see, write in a book, and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.' And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden lampstands; and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like unto the **Son of Man (Jesus)**, clothed with a garment down to the feet, and girded about the chest with a golden sash. His head and His hair was white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; and His feet were like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and His voice was as the sound of many waters. And He had in His right hand seven stars; and out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword (the Word of God - Heb.4:12); and His countenance (or face) was as the sun shining in its strength. And when I saw Him, **I fell at His feet** as dead. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying unto me, 'Fear not; I am the **First and the Last**. I am He who lives, and was dead; and, behold, **I am alive for evermore**, Amen; **and I Have the Keys of Death and of Hades.**" (Revelation 1:10-18)

Have: from the Greek word **echo** which means: to have, or to hold, or to possess; in context: these 'Keys' are in complete possession of Jesus to use as He chooses.

Keys: from the Greek word **kleis** which means: keys; since the keeper of the keys has the power to open and to shut, the word is figuratively used in the Bible to denote power and authority of various kinds; and in the practical sense of doors & gates, whether it be the key that opens the gate into Heaven, or the key that locks gate of hell; or in context the keys that open and close the gates of Death and Hades.

Death: from the Greek word **thanatou** which means: death; physical or spiritual. Concerning the death of the physical body: that separation (whether natural or violent) of the soul from the body by which the physical life on earth is ended. Concerning spiritual death: that state of being of persons separated from God because of sin unforgiven; being unforgiven because of no faith in Jesus as Him being the One and only Savior from sin.

Hades: from the Greek word **hadou (hades)** which means: the unseen-place; referring to the (invisible) realm in which the dead reside; of which in the New Testament primarily refers to the temporary dwelling place where unsaved & unrepentant souls reside after physical death, until they are judged at the end of the thousand year reign of King Jesus.

(Hell: from the Greek word **geenna** (Gehenna) which means: hell; the final place of punishment of unbelievers in Christ Jesus; it is the place of post-resurrection torment (judgment); refers strictly to the everlasting abode of the unredeemed where they experience divine judgment in their individual post resurrection-bodies. It is a place of no return! (Also referred to as the "Lake of Fire" in [Revelation 20:15-15](#))

Of Death and of Hades: In context, Jesus is speaking of the 'state-of-existence' of the dead as Death; and the 'place' where these dead are as Hades. Jesus declares His own Eternal Living existence, and His possession of the 'Keys of Death and of Hades' in the true sense of having the power and authority in determining the fate of those departed souls there within.

When Jesus comes as King of Kings, and as the Judge of the living and the dead, His decisions will be final, they will not be changed! The door opened for believers into the Kingdom of God will not be shut unto them! And the door that shuts out unbelievers will not be opened! And in another sense the doors to both Heaven and hell will at the End be locked, with no possibility of passing from one place to the other!

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Please also consider the following prophecy and its fulfillment for us through our Lord Jesus:

"O Israel, you have destroyed yourself; **but in Me is your help; I will be your King.** Where is there any other who may save you in all your cities; and your judges of whom you said, 'Give me a king and princes'? I gave you a king in My anger, and took him away in My wrath! The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is stored up. The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him; he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children. I will ransom them from the power of the grave (=Sheol)=(Hades); I will redeem them from death. O death, I will be your plagues; O grave (Sheol), I will be your destruction; repentance (or pity) shall be hid from My eyes." (Hosea 13:9-14)

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep (i.e. die), but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead (in Christ Jesus) shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written:

'Death is swallowed up in victory!' (Isaiah 25:8).

'O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?' (Hosea 13:14)

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. " (1 Corinthians 15:50-57)

Please consider the following situations during the Great Tribulation where many souls are being added to Death and Hades:

"And I saw when the Lamb (Jesus) opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, 'Come and see.' And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he who sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him; and he went forth **conquering, and to conquer.** And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, 'Come and see.' And there went out another horse that was red; and power was given to him who sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, 'Come and see.' And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he who sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, 'A measure of wheat for a denarius, and three measures of barley for a denarius; and see you hurt not the oil and the wine.' And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, 'Come and see.' And I looked, and behold a pale horse; and his name who sat on him **was Death, and Hades** followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. (Revelation 6:1-8)

Please consider the following warnings concerning the fate of those who reject Jesus:

"Then He (Jesus) began to reproach the cities wherein most of His mighty works were done, because they repented not. 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, it will be more tolerable on the Day of Judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? **You will be brought down to Hades.** For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the Day of Judgment for the land of Sodom **than for you!**" (Matthew 11:20-24)

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Hades was contrasted, by Jesus, with the Bosom of Abraham as follows:

"There was a certain rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day. And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, who was laid at his gate, full of sores, and was hoping to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's Bosom. The rich man also died, and was buried. **And in Hades** he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham from afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things. But now **he is comforted**, and you are tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed; so that those who would pass from here to you cannot; nor can they pass to us, who would come from there.' Then he said, 'I pray you therefore, father (Abraham), that you would send him to my father's house; for I have five brothers; so that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said unto him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one went to them from the dead, they will repent.' And he said unto him, 'If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.'" ([Luke 16:19-31](#))

Eventually Jesus will raise the Righteous Dead in Christ Jesus unto Eternal Life, and the unrighteous Dead, still separated from Christ Jesus, will remain in Hades until their final judgement at the end of the thousand year reign of Christ Jesus; and they will then be cast into the Lake of Fire called Hell. Please consider the following:

"And at that time shall Michael (the archangel) stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble (the Great Tribulation), such as never occurred since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who shall be found **written in the Book (of Life)**. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, **some to Everlasting Life**, and **some to shame and everlasting contempt**." ([Daniel 12:1-3](#))

"And I saw a great white throne, and **Him** who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw **the dead**, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is **the Book of Life**; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it; and **Death and Hades** delivered up the dead who were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works. And **Death and Hades were cast into the Lake of Fire**. This is the second Death. And whoever was not found written in **the Book of Life** was cast into the Lake of Fire (hell)." ([Revelation 20:11-15](#))

Jesus Has the Keys of Death and of Hades

These are the keys that open or lock the gates of Death and Hades !

**Death and Hades is where unsaved & unrepentant souls reside after physical death !
In the End Death and Hades shall be cast into Hell after being judged by King Jesus !**

Lord Jesus, what You open no one can close; and what You close no one can unlock !

Thank You for raising us up incorruptible, and immortal !!

Thank You for the comfort and peace that we have in You, and You in us !!

Truly Truly ~ ~ Amen & Amen !!