

Introduction

- I. Jesus Christ opens and closes the kingdom through the keys of the kingdom that He has given to the church (Matt. 16).
- II. The key of Christian discipline is neglected in the church world today and is under attack.

The Key-Power of Christian Discipline

I. Christ's Work

- A. Christ works through this key to protect the church from the serious threats of false doctrine and sin that grows like a cancer in the church. This is what A. 85 speaks of.

- B. Christian discipline is the work of Jesus Christ through the church (Rev. 2; Matt. 10:40)

II. Faithfully Exercised

- A. In Matt. 18:15 we are commanded, "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone."

- B. If the sinner persists in impenitence, refusing to confess and forsake his sin, you are called to tell it to the church – by this is mean the elders of the church.

III. God's Declaration

- A. Those who continue to walk in sin are excluded from the church and from the kingdom of God.

- B. But to those who repent with a true repentance there is great joy - angels rejoice in heaven over the repentance of a sinner.