



**7 simple but  
profound ways  
to keep the  
heavens open**

**Ps Peter Nicholes  
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## Heaven remains open by the Fear of God

*<sup>13</sup> From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind; <sup>14</sup> from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth— <sup>15</sup> he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.*

**Psalm 33:13-15**

*<sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, <sup>19</sup> to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.*

**Psalm 33:18-19**

## Satan's fallen from Heaven and lost his dominion

*<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." <sup>18</sup> He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. <sup>20</sup> However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

**Luke 10:17-20**

## Satan's strategy is to work in the hearts of the disobedient

*<sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.*

**Ephesians 2:2 NLT**

## This is what the Holy Spirit says

*<sup>7</sup> That is why the Holy Spirit says, “Today when you hear his voice, <sup>8</sup> don’t harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled, when they tested me in the wilderness. <sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested and tried my patience, even though they saw my miracles for forty years. <sup>10</sup> So I was angry with them, and I said, ‘Their hearts always turn away from me. They refuse to do what I tell them.’ <sup>11</sup> So in my anger I took an oath: ‘They will never enter my place of rest.’”*

**Hebrews 3:7-11 NLT**

## Today if you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit don't harden your heart

*<sup>12</sup> Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. <sup>13</sup> You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. <sup>14</sup> For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ. <sup>15</sup> Remember what it says: "Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled."*

**Hebrews 3:12-19**

## Today if you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit don't harden your heart

*<sup>16</sup> And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt? <sup>17</sup> And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him? <sup>19</sup> So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.*

**Hebrews 3:12-19**

## Receive the Holy Spirit by believing

*<sup>1</sup> You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. <sup>2</sup> I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? <sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? <sup>4</sup> Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing? <sup>5</sup> Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?*

**Galatians 3:1-5 NIV**

# The Kingdom is near

*<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."*

**Matthew 4:17**

**Obey what God wants  
so His kingdom can come.**

## The Lord gave this message to his prophet Jeremiah

*<sup>3</sup> Perhaps when the people of Judah hear about every disaster I plan to inflict on them, each of them will turn from his wicked way; then I will forgive their wickedness and their sin.”*

**Jeremiah 36:3**

**Jesus said,  
this is how you should pray**

**Your Kingdom come!**

**Your will be done! (not my will)**

**On earth as it is in heaven**

**Heaven and earth become one.**

**Matthew 6:10**

# Great or small in the Kingdom

*<sup>19</sup> Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*

**Matthew 5:19**

## Matthew 5

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>Vs 3</b>  | Poor (humble) in spirit the kingdom is theirs                |
| <b>Vs 6</b>  | Hunger and thirst will be filled                             |
| <b>Vs 8</b>  | Pure in heart will see God                                   |
| <b>Vs 10</b> | Persecuted for righteousness the kingdom yours               |
| <b>Vs 22</b> | Angry with his brother, subject to judgment                  |
| <b>Vs 24</b> | Before you worship go and reconcile yourself to your brother |
| <b>Vs 28</b> | Don't lust in your heart for another woman                   |
| <b>Vs 44</b> | Love your enemies and pray for them                          |

# Always forgive a repentive person

*4 If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him."*

**Luke 17:4**