



# Heaven's Secret Handshake

I stumbled upon scripture regarding a Christian handshake. Is there some slick, secret handshake by which we can enter heaven? Secret handshakes unlock doors in many clubs and organizations. In fact, we seem to be fascinated by secret societies, secret handshakes, and so on. Perhaps this is due to the allure of the unknown, and our speculation about the big secrets that the rest of us cannot know. What about this Christian handshake?

First, there are some fascinating secret organizations around the world. Yale's Skull & Bones Society, the Bilderberger Group, the Illuminati, Knights of Malta, Knights Templar, and so forth, having their secret membership lists which include the rich and famous and perhaps influence the world order. Nonmembers can only hypothesize about these clandestine social orders. One thing is for sure- they *must* have their own secret handshakes! If you know the secret handshake, you can attend the secret meetings and influence important circles around the world.

When you die, your domination of world affairs ends; but maybe along the way you learned a secret handshake to take you to the "next level." Maybe you learned "heaven's secret handshake."

The only source we have to study about heaven is the Bible. The Bible also is known as the Word of God. Therefore, the Bible is the only reliable source we can consult to seek a handshake that will allow us to enter heaven. God gives Peter the keys to heaven<sup>1</sup>, so let us look to Peter for a clue. Here is what Peter wrote about the Christian handshake:

*Give each other the handshake of Christian love. Peace is to all of you who are in Christ. (1 Peter 5:14 LVB.)*

What is the substance of this handshake? Peter, the keeper of the keys, also wrote, *All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; for it is his boundless mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again, so that we are now members of God's own family. Now we live in the hope of eternal life because Christ rose again from the dead. And God has reserved for his children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And God, in his mighty power, will make sure that you get there safely to receive it, because you are trusting him. (1 Peter 1:3-5a LVB.)*

So the “secret handshake,” or “Handshake of Christian Love,” is spiritual in nature-not a physical grasping of the arms. It is an embracing of the beliefs mandated by God, taught by His only begotten Son Jesus- this is what can get us into heaven- heaven’s handshake.

These verses summarize the doctrine behind the “secret handshake,” salvation from your sins, God’s gift:

- *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23.)*
- *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9.)*
- *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:1-3.)*

*To accept Jesus as your Savior, pray: “Dear Father in Heaven, I know I am a sinner. I am truly sorry for my sins and ask that you will forgive me. I accept Jesus as my Savior. From this day forward I will strive to live for Him. Dear Lord Jesus, please come into my heart.”*

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I Jesus said, “You are Peter, a stone; and upon this rock I will build my church; and all the powers of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven; whatever doors you lock on earth shall be locked in heaven; and whatever doors you open on earth shall be open in heaven!” (Matthew 16:18-19 LVB.)