

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Session 9

Section 2: The Letters to the Churches – Rev 2&3

PHILADELPHIA: Faithfulness to Jesus (Rev. 3:7-13)

I. THE CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA

A. Background

1. Ancient Philadelphia was on the site of modern day Alashehir at the juncture of trade routes. The imperial route from Rome passed through Philadelphia thus, giving it the name "the gateway to the East" making it an important financial city. It was a prosperous city.

B. Revelation of Jesus

1. The One who is holy
2. The One who is true
3. I have the key of David
 - a. I open and no one shuts
 - b. I shut and no one opens

C. Affirmation

1. I know your works.
2. I set before you an open door.
3. I know you have a little power,
 - a. 2 Cor 12:9-10
4. Yet you have kept my word.
 - a. Guard, defend, feed, obey
5. You have not denied my name. (my reputation is intact with you)
6. I will make those who persecute you bow before you in honor. (Vindication)
7. They will know that I love YOU!
8. Because you have kept my word of endurance, I will keep (guard) you from the hour of trial – Ps 91

- D. Rebuke
 - a. None
- E. Exhortation
 - 1. Hold fast what you have so no one steals your crown
 - a. Ez 3:20; Ez 18:24; Ez 33:13-20
 - b. I Cor 3:14-15
 - c. 2 Jn 8
- F. He who overcomes – the rewards
 - 1. I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God
 - a. All believers are part of God’s spiritual temple
 - b. A pillar is one who is given authority, responsibility and honor
 - (1) Bear weight
 - (2) Ornamental – enhancing beauty
 - c. Declare honor of heros
 - (1) Jakin & Boaz (1 King 7:21)
 - d. Permanent - stability
 - 2. He shall never go out (Ps 27:4; Ps 84:10)
 - a. Never leave?
 - b. Never lose your place?
 - 3. I will write on him the name of My God, the name of the city of God – new Jerusalem and my own new Name!
 - a. The Name of the Father – Yahweh; Elohim;
 - b. The Name of the New Jerusalem
 - c. The New Name of Jesus – a mystery
 - d. Written upon
 - (1) Hearts & Minds & Foreheads