

Philadelphia, 6th Church
Donna Shelton 9/22/09

Rev 3:7-13 7 *"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, 'He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens': 8 'I know your record of works and what you are doing. See! I have set before you a door wide open which no one is able to shut; I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept My Word and guarded My message and have not renounced or denied My name. 9 Take note! I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet and learn and acknowledge that I have loved you. 10 'Because you have guarded and kept My word of patient endurance (have held fast the lesson of My patience with the expectant endurance that I give you), I also will keep you safe from the hour of trial(testing) which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth. 11 'I am coming quickly. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may rob you and deprive you of your crown.. 12 'He who overcomes,(is victorious)I will make him a pillar in the sanctuary of My God; he shall never be put out of it or go out of it, and I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends from My God out of heaven, My own new name. 13 'He who can hear, let him listen to and heed what the Spirit says to the assemblies (churches).'" (NKJ)*

***to the pastor of the church in Philadelphia (brotherly love) write:**

- **John 13:35** *"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (NKJ)*
- love one another: John 13:34; John 15:12; Rom. 13:8; 1 Thess. 4:9; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 Jn 3:11; 1 Jn 3:23; 1 Jn 4: 7,8; 2 Jn 1:5

*** These things says He who is holy, He who is true,**

- **1 Pet 1:16** *"because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." (NKJ)*
- **John 14:6** *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (NKJ)*

*** He who has the key of David:** 1st reference to this is **Isaiah 22:22**, and Jesus refers to Himself as being the One who now has that key.

- Shebna formerly held this key and was prideful (**Ezekiel 28:14-19**) unfaithful and unjust (called the 'strong man' **Matt 12:29**) thus he was violently overthrown and disgraced and removed from office. (**Col. 2:15**)
- The key represents authority (**Matt 28:18** 'All power is given unto Me..')

*** He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":**

- **Ezek 44:1-2** *1 Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. 2 Then said the LORD unto me; This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. (KJV)*
- Muslims put a graveyard in front of the Eastern gate to secure it...Jews won't cross it and be defiled...Jesus will resurrect all before He returns – no graves, no defilement, the gate opens...
- **John 10:9** "I am the door"

*** See! I have set before you a door wide open which no one is able to shut;**

- **1 Cor. 16:9** *'For a great and affective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries'*
- **Acts 14:27** *Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. (NKJ)*

*** I know that you have but little *power, and yet you have kept My Word and guarded My message**

and have not renounced or denied My name

- little power: small amount of 'dunamis' – miracle working power, ability, might and strength
- yet – you have kept my Word. **Ps. 119:11** – 'Your word have I laid up in my heart, that I might not sin against You.
- You have guarded my message: **Ps 4:23** 'Guard your heart with all diligence....'
- and have not renounced or denied My name – **Matt 10:33** 'But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven' (NKJ)

*** Take note! I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—**

- synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not...At that time Christians referred to themselves as Jews who were believers in Jesus as Messiah.
- **Romans 2:28** *For he is not a *Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 2:29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God*
- Many claimed to be Christian, but did none of the above, bearing no fruit of real relationship with Christ – no fruit of His Lordship. "If He isn't Lord of all, He isn't Lord AT ALL."

*** behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet and learn and acknowledge that I have loved you.**

- **Matt 7:21-23** *21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (NKJ)*
- **Matt 12:49-50** *49 And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! 50 "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (NKJ)*
- **John 14:21** *"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (NKJ)*

*** "Because you have guarded and kept My word of patient endurance (have held fast the lesson of My patience with the expectant endurance that I give you), I also will keep you safe from the hour of trial(testing) which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth.**

- Temptation: putting to proof by experiment of good and experience of evil, discipline or provocation; adversity Test: scrutinize
- Here referring back to His words in **Luke 21:19** *By yours steadfastness and patient endurance you shall win the true life of your souls.*
- Jesus is describing the end times to His disciples in this chapter.
- **Luke 21:34-36** *Amp 'But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed, weighed down, with the giddiness and headache and nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to this life, and lest that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or noose; 35 for it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth 36 Keep awake then and watch at all times, be discreet, attentive, and ready, praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things taken together that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.*

*** "I am coming quickly."**

- *Psalm 37*
- **Mal 3:1-2** 1 "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the LORD of hosts. 2 "**But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderer's soap.** (NKJ)
- **1Thes 3:12-13** 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints. (NKJ)
- **1Thes 4:16-18** 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words. (NKJ)
- **James 5:7-8** Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. (NKJ)
- **2 Pet 3:10-15** 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 **looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?** 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; 15 and account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation-- as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, (NKJ)

* **Hold fast what you have, use strength, seize or retain, vigorously) so that no one may rob you and deprive you of your crown..**

- Someone else may get the crown meant for me if I am not faithful, obedient and persevering

* **"He who overcomes, (is victorious)I will make him a pillar in the sanctuary of My God; he shall never be put out of it or go out of it, and I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends from My God out of heaven, My own new name.**

- *God is LOVE... love for brethren seals His Name on our life!*

13 "He who can hear, let him listen to and heed what the Spirit says to the assemblies (churches)."

Philadelphia: This church has great prophetic significance. It was situated at the foot of the mountains leading to Anatolia and "was the doorway" to this region.

1. The time period it represents was "The Great Awakening" and the era of "world mission" to open the door to the Gospel so that it could be spread to the ends of the world. William Carey became the messenger to India in 1793, Robert Morrison to China in 1807. In 1817, Robert Moffet carried the message to Africa and John Wesley challenged the doctrines of Calvin. Between 1804 and 1834, several Bible societies were established...the door for the Gospel was opened.
- In the counterfeit to this came "Spiritism, atheism, Humanism – all of which were the foundation stones of Communism. Today: because of what has been said by the leader of our nation, an open door has been created in the natural and in the spirit world for those against the cause of Christ.
- Sept. 25. Islamic prayer in Washington, D.C. "Our time has come" "We do not consider ourselves a 'Christian nation, Jewish, Muslim...that promise of a secular nation' June 2006 – mocked Bible...