

Lesson 8 – Revelation 3:7-13
Philadelphia: The Church that is _____ to Christ

1. The Introduction (v7).

a. Philadelphia:

- 1) Located in the region of Lydia some 28 miles _____ of Sardis.
- 2) It was known for its _____ and its worship of _____, the god of _____.
- 3) It had also been destroyed several times by _____. In relation to this letter, the most recent one had taken place in A.D. 17.
- 4) It was named after the king of Pergamos, Attalus Philadelphus, who build it and in Greek it means “_____.”
 - a) A key ingredient in keeping a church faithful to Christ and thereby pleasing to Christ is the presence of true _____ among its members.
 - b) This is the emotionally intimate and unbreakable love that exists between members of a _____.
 - c) What might this look like in a church? What would be some examples of this within a church?

b. “These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth”:

- 1) He is _____, so a church faithful and, thereby, pleasing to Him will be _____ (1 Pet 1:15).
- 2) He is _____, so a church faithful and, thereby, pleasing to Him will be _____ (i.e. without _____ error).
- 3) He has opened the door of _____ (John 10:7-9), so a church faithful and, thereby, pleasing to Him will _____ out and _____ others in entering through that door.
- 4) The “key of David” is a reference to Isa 22:22 and represents His exclusive _____ or _____ control over the Kingdom of God, which is the ultimate fulfillment of the promise He made to the _____ of David. Keys represent _____.

2. The Commendation (v8-12).

- a. Like Smyrna, this church received no _____ at all. Jesus had only _____ and _____ for this church.
- b. v8: The faithful church will face _____, but.
- 1) Though you have “little strength”:
 - a) This could mean that they were little in _____ (i.e. a great minority in a great city).
 - b) Or this could mean that they were little in _____ or _____ weight (i.e. they had no one in this church of any social or political _____). They were all most likely from the lower classes.).
 - c) According to 1 Cor 1:26-31, who does God call and why?
 - 2) Though you have and will continue to face persecution: Who is persecuting this church?
 - 3) You have done what I have asked you to do and you have remained faithful.
 - a) “I know thy works” – and since they were pleasing to Him, their works must have been of the _____ works (i.e., they were a true GCC). The all-seeing and all-knowing God is keeping the books.
 - b) “I have set before thee an open door” – “Probably it means here a good opportunity for _____ effort in spite of Jewish hostility” (ATR).
- c. v9-12: The faithful church possesses three great _____ from Christ.
- 1) A great _____ (v9). (Add to this the _____ depicted in Luke 16:19-23.)
 - 2) A great _____ (v10). (I.e., no _____ period for the faithful Church.)
 - 3) A great _____ (v12). (I.e., from _____ earthly citizens to _____ in the kingdom of God.)

3. The Invitation (v13). This is the type of church that you want to be!