

The Church at Philadelphia

Rev. 3:7-13

Introduction

1. Philadelphia is located at modern day Alasehir
2. It was founded by King Eumenes of Pergamum after 189 BC or by Attalus II, nicknamed "brother lover" because of his allegiance to Eumenes, his brother.
3. The city was located at the junction of several trades routes.
4. An earthquake in 17 AD destroyed the city and it was rebuilt by Tiberias.

Jesus is ...

1. Holy. Rev. 6:10
2. True. Rev. 6:10
3. The holder of the key of David.
 1. He has authority to _____.
 2. He has control of the royal _____. Is. 22:15, 20-22
 3. He has control of _____ and _____. Rev. 1:18
4. Jesus is God and has authority to bless and save.

Commendation. 3:8

1. I know your deeds - we live in the _____ of God.
2. I have put before you an open door to the _____ of God's blessings of grace.
3. You have...
 1. Little power (strength). They focus on Jesus.
 1. A man's strength is the _____. Neh. 8:10
 2. When a man suffers he's to _____. Matt. 5:10-12
 3. The joy of the Lord comes when in the face of persecution, believers rejoice and focus on Jesus on the other side of the veil.
 2. Kept My word. They _____ the gospel. Matt. 7:24
 3. Not denied My name. They held fast to the work accomplished by Jesus.
 1. Holding to the name of Jesus is a work of God. John 17:11, 13.
 2. It is one of the blessings flowing through the open door.
 4. Persecution + _____ = _____ produces _____.

Admonition 3:11

1. Hold fast what you have. See #3 above.
2. So no one will take your crown/wreath. James 1:12, Rev. 2:10

His promises 3:8-12

1. The royal treasuries of _____ are open to you and no one can shut them. 3:8
2. You will judge those who persecute you and they will know I have loved you. 3:9
 1. What is a true Jew? Gal. 3:7, 6:16, Rom. 2:28-29
 2. What is a synagogue of Satan? Matt. 3:9, John 8:44
3. I will keep you during the time of testing that I am bringing soon to the entire world.
 1. Jesus didn't rapture this church (or any church) during the lifetime of that church. Saying He was going to do it, knowing it wasn't going to happen in their lifetime, is a pointless promise.

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2. _____ are the front door to the kingdom of God. There is no other teaching that intimates Jesus will take believers out of tribulation. In fact, they are told it's the only way into the kingdom of God. Acts 14:22
3. God brings blessing through _____. Matt. 5:10-12

4. God promises to keep His people through their trials. John 14:18-20, 27-29
5. What is the hour of testing for those who dwell on the earth?
 1. Time is needed for the sins of the world to be fulfilled before Jesus returns in judgment. Gen. 15:13-16 is an example.
 2. The hour of testing on the world comes by the presence of Jesus and the church in the world. He and the church are the light. John 3:19-21.
6. How are God's people kept "from" this testing? They are already in the light.
4. I will eternally establish the one who overcomes in the presence of God and identify him with His Father, His city in heaven, and My new name.

The Call to Hear

1. Jesus opens the door to God's treasures of grace in heaven.
2. Keep focused on Jesus.
3. Apply the gospel daily.
4. Do not deny the power of Jesus' work.

Do you have the joy of the Lord in your heart?