

# Chapter Seven

## The Things Which Are

(Revelation 2:1 – 3:22)

### I. The Church. (3:7-13)

#### I. Philadelphia (The Faithful Church)

##### A. History of Philadelphia

- 1) Located about 80 miles east of Smyrna and 26 miles southwest of Sardis.
- 2) It stands on the Cogamis River.
- 3) Philadelphia was founded in 189 B.C. by King Eumenes II (197-160 B.C.)?
- 4) He named the city for the love of his brother who would be his successor, Attalus II (159-138 B.C.)
- 5) Lacking an heir King Attalus III bequeathed his kingdom to his Roman allies when he died in 133 B.C.
- 6) The ancient city had many temples.
- 7) Like Sardis it was hit with a devastating earthquake in 17 A.D. Emperor Tiberius aided in rebuilding the city.
- 8) It was the center of the wine industry.
- 9) Dionysus was the chief pagan cult.





**Philadelphia acropolis**



**Philadelphia theater, unexcavated**

## II. The Correspondent. (3:7)

I. He who is Holy. (**Shows His deity, for God alone is holy**)

II. He who is true. (**That which is genuine, authentic, real**)

III. He who holds the key of David. (**Speaks of the messianic office, he has the sovereign authority as to who enters His messianic kingdom.**)

A. He holds the keys of death and hell

B. Here he holds the keys to salvation and blessings

IV. He is the one who opens and no one shuts, and what He shuts no one can open. (**This shows His omnipotence there is no one more powerful that can overturn His action**)

## III. The Compliment. (3:8-11a)

I. I know your deeds

II. Jesus placed and open door before them. (**No one could stand in their way so they could preach the gospel**)

III. Jesus knew they had little strength. (**Not because they were weak but because they were a small congregation**) Spiritual power was flowing from this church.

IV. Jesus said you have kept my word and have not denied my name. (**They did not deviate from the word of God and were loyal to Christ no matter what it cost them**)

*Job 23:12 (NKJV)* <sup>12</sup>I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary *food*.

A) He will make those who belong to the synagogue of Satan bow down at their feet. (**Speaks of victory over our enemies because of Christ's strength in us**)

B) Because they endured patiently He would keep them from the hour of trial . (**This trial is going to come upon the whole world to test them. Test who? no one but the unbelievers**)

1) Test is still future

2) Daniels 70<sup>th</sup> week (Daniel 9:25-27); The Time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7);



#### IV. The Concern.

I. There is no concern mentioned by the Lord Jesus.

#### V. The Cure. (3:11b)

I. Hold onto what you have so no one takes your crown.

A. This is not the crown of life as in **(Rev. 2:10)**

#### VI. The Counsel. (3:12-13)

I. He who overcomes.

A. I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. **(Stability, immovability, security)**

B. I will write the name of my God on him. **(Shows ownership, intimate personnel relationship)**

C. I will write the name of the city of my God. **(Shows our citizenship, security, safety)**

D. I will write on him my new name. **(Christ will reveal to us His complete greatness)**

